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THE CLUB WOMAN

The Official Organ of the G. F. W. C. Board and of the Local Board of the
Milwaukee Biennial

VOL. V.

FEBRUARY, 1900.

No. 5.

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The Official Organ of the Board of Directors of the General Federation and of the Local Board of the Milwaukee Biennial.

VOLUME V.

BOSTON, FEBRUARY, 1900.

NUMBER 5.

Helen M. Winslow, - - - Editor and Publisher.

NOTES.

Please remember that we continue sending The Club Woman until we are notified to discontinue.

Please notice that rather lonely looking member of your club, and give her the glad hand and the warm smile.

Are you going to be other than a mere numerical addition to your club this year? How much will you do to assist in the work your club is organized to do?

According to our arithmetic, the presidents of one or two women's colleges and Mrs. Lowe to the contrary, we are still rounding out the nineteenth century.

The Club Owl gets the following suggestions for a club name from the old English writer, Henry Carey, of the 17th century: Aldeborontiphoscophorino!
Where left you Chrononhotonthologos?

Explicit directions have always appeared on this page, directing where subscriptions and all correspondence relating to them should be sent. We are not responsible for money sent to the Tremont Temple office, which is maintained only for the convenience of the advertising department.

Musical club women will note with pleasure that we have started in this number a new department called "Women and Music," conducted by Miss S. C. Very of New York City, a well-known writer on such topics. We feel sure this new feature will be welcomed by many clubs in city and country throughout the land.

Miss Zona Gale of the Evening Wisconsin has been appointed chairman of the press committee of the Local Biennial at Milwaukee, in place of Miss Ida Jackson, resigned, and her acceptance gives pleasure to everyone concerned. Miss Gale is a thoroughly trained newspaper woman, a college graduate and a remarkably bright and attractive girl who is sure to make hosts of friends in her new position.

The good women who have been working for the decoration of public schoolhouses in Thorp, Wis., do not meet with much encouragement from their townspeople. A recent copy of the "Thorp Courier" contains a formal notice from the local school board requiring that all decoration of the schoolrooms shall cease and that any further attempt to continue the work shall be immediately reported to the board over whose signature the notice appears. It is also gathered from a statement in the same paper that the "offensive decorations" included two sets of Perry pictures, two sets of silk flags, a bust of Admiral Dewey and a copy of the beautiful face of Evangeline. It is also shown that these were procured by some of the children themselves, who raised the money several months ago in some little local entertainment of their own. It scarcely seems possible, in this enlightened age, that any town could support a school board that chose to be so short-sighted and unprogressive.

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MRS. MAY ALDEN WARD, - - - Club Study.
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"THE MELLOWING OF OCCASION."

IN the rush and whirl of the mid-winter season, let us stop to think a bit. What would happen if we were suddenly isolated from clubs and society and obliged to spend a month in some quiet country place, with no society, no clubs, no companionship but our own thoughts? I would not have even the modern book along to distract or to act as the connecting link between us and the whirligig of modern civilization. And then what should we do? Think. There would be nothing else to do; and what a blessed thing that would be for most, yea for all of us. We live in such an atmosphere of unrestfulness, with so little opportunity for self-communion, that we forget that a wise prophet once said there is a time to think, as well as a time to work and a time to sing and a time to dance. And we need to stop and think more than we need to do any of these other things.

The charge is made against American women, and it is too true, that we lack repose of manner. How can we show that in our manner which we lack in our natures? And how can we possess repose of the soul when we never allow ourselves a minute to catch up with ourselves, to commune with the silent forces of nature, to inhale the strength and calmness and courage that we might exhale again in the fragrance which we call, in the rare instances when we behold it in others, repose of manner? Life for the most of us is an insane scramble to catch up with things—and not half the time do we know or care whether they are things worth catching up with; nor are we satisfied if we succeed for a moment in reaching them. Once in a while the futility of the chase comes over us in a brief gleam of reason, but others around us are hurrying through life after the unattainable, and we forget and scramble on, too, in unconscious emulation of the old Scotch saying, "The de'il take the hindmost."

What should we do, then, if we were suddenly isolated, as I have said? Be oppressed with intolerable loneliness at first, no doubt; and then we should begin to think. I sometimes think it would be a blessed thing if every club woman were obliged sometimes to go into retreat, as the good Catholics do. The silence of a quiet room where she could be undisturbed and could spend a few days in thinking out the problems of life, even if she were not spiritually inclined enough to seek a higher communion, would be of inestimable benefit to the average woman. There is such a thing as too much of attrition with other human beings. A stone that rolls ever about restlessly in the rushing waters of a strong current becomes polished off to look and feel like every other stone in its neighborhood. So we lose our individuality and come to have no atmosphere of our own.

A woman with no atmosphere of her own is one of the most uninteresting objects in the world. A woman should be an individual; more than that, she should possess a distinct individuality. She should suggest to those with whom she comes most in contact something bright and beautiful or soft and restful. How can she, if she be uneasy, restless and strenuous? Certain women come into a room or a house like an inspiration; they suggest an exhilarating breath of June air, or the great calmness of a starry night. Such women are worthy to be called God's beneficences. They are like the beautiful rose tree, scenting the atmosphere with fragrance and making all the world aware of June and summer and all bright things. And unless we do sometimes "chant in thoughts and paint in words," even though it be in our secret soul of souls, we can never hope to be numbered with such.

Ruskin's words should be emblazoned on a card and hung before the eyes of every restless woman. "And to get peace, if you do want it, make for yourselves nests of pleasant thoughts. Those are nests on the sea, indeed, but safe beyond all others. Do you know what fairy palaces you may build of beautiful thoughts, proof against all adversity? Bright fancies, satisfied memories, noble histories, faithful sayings, treasure houses of precious and restful thoughts, which care cannot disturb, nor pain make gloomy, nor poverty take away from us; houses built without hands for our souls to live in." Why not take this for our rule, and devote some little time every day, say a half hour at dusk or even at night after the house is still, to building ourselves nests of pleasant thoughts? Surely it would pay.

There are women who can never endure their own company for the space of half an hour. Their one desire is to avoid themselves—to hide from themselves in the company of others. Of such we are not talking, although they are not utterly hopeless; since it would not be impossible that loneliness or isolation from their kind should develop the habit of thinking, even in them. But to the woman who wants to be individual, who wants to be an inspiration and a help to others—if she only had time—I would urge the appropriation of just a little bit of time every day or every night for getting acquainted with her real self, for the cultivation of her power of thought.

In this way we may all observe the Lenten season, and make it minister to the inner needs of the soul, whether we are church women or not. So we shall develop love and patience and the helpful instinct which makes of women what God meant them to be: His messengers to humankind. Just as the observance of the Sabbath is a wise thing from a physiological point of view, so is the Lenten season with its opportunities for self-communion and its breathing-spaces a blessing to the intellectual world.

Not that we should cease our activities utterly, or take time for morbid contemplation of our own peculiarities or tendencies. There is a great deal of work to be done, and work that seems to be meant for our own hands and no other. Only we must learn to discriminate between actual service and aimless work that accomplishes nothing, even for ourselves. And service should enrich the giver before all others, should it not?

It rests with the individual woman whether she will be like a rosetree full of brightness and fragrance, a help and an inspiration; or whether she will waste herself in a mad endeavor to keep up with the pell-mell, hop, skip and jump of modern life. Shall we stop occasionally long enough to plant the seed germs that will blossom later into flower and fruit? Or shall we degenerate into mere replicas of other women who wear good clothes, do and say the conventional, commonplace thing, and are as uninteresting as a sunset without a flush of color?

No: let us give ourselves pause. Let us take stock of ourselves and see if we are making the most of our talents, "building for ourselves fairy palaces, proof against all adversity." And let us not do it for ourselves alone, but that we may give others that "which care may not disturb nor pain take away."

I could not possibly afford to get along without The Club Woman. I would actually have to resign my position as president of my local club.—Mrs. J. B. Pillow, Helena, Arkansas.

OUR CRITICS.

By Fannie H. Howard.

Read Before the Woman's National Press Association of Washington, the New England Woman's Press Association and Other Organizations.

IN a magazine article a few years ago, Helen Campbell said: "It is the nineteenth century, with all its complex conditions, that has given birth to the wide sense of mutual obligations."

"Mutual obligations." This is the keynote of the ideal club woman. When she fails to feel this, she fails in the essential element of club life and prostitutes its ennobling possibilities to the low standard of frivolity or personal ambition. But it rests with ourselves as individuals whether we aid in this great revolution by placing ourselves at the highest standard or degrade our club life to paltry aims, ignoble strifes and undignified successes.

The need of outside stimulus, the consciousness of this need, is what is bringing women together into clubs. To quote again from Helen Campbell:

"So long as outward interests made small part of the life of woman, and her chief end was a speedy seeking and finding of the individual man who was to be her special phase of the general problem, women remained for each other a secondary matter."

There is a marked difference in the formation of men's clubs and women's clubs. Men's clubs are for social enjoyment. Women's clubs are for social improvement. Men's clubs are to make a headquarters of luxury and of freedom from the cares, annoyances and even duties of home. Women's clubs are to supplement, strengthen and broaden the power to make a home. A man puts money into his club to secure luxurious surroundings which he cannot afford in his own home, and then the club rules forbid his wife any share in them. In a word, men create clubs for their own pleasure. No woman's club was ever formed that did not have as an element of its formation the desire and the intention to help, first each other, and then all other women.

This is prominently asserted in the formula which calls the first meeting; but right here our critics sneer and say we create clubs for the ambitious woman to use as a step-ladder to make her a little higher than some other woman. If that be true, then have our clubs essentially failed, and woe betides the belittled soul that has so thought to lift herself on it.

Since the discovery by women that the old negative virtues of patience, silence and endurance did not represent the whole of her capabilities; since she has found that she possessed the positive attributes of ability, activity and intelligence, there has come to her a desire to bring forward these qualities. In short, she has heard so much of her "sphere" that she has determined to cease to be the one-sided creature which she has hitherto been, and to round out into the globular woman so blatantly demanded as the proper type of her sex.

To do this, she becomes conscious that she must get some idea of what is transpiring outside the limits of her own doorway. She must gain a knowledge of what the world at large is doing. She gropes her way to some "Woman's Club." Lo! she sees a woman in the chair—a real presiding officer, holding a bona fide gavel. She listens to a discussion of a motion, and finds herself voting "Aye"—it takes some time to learn to vote "No." She hears women address the chair and wonders they can state so clearly what she has privately thought, and how it happens that some other woman has been puzzling over the same social riddle. She goes again, and by and by she, too,

holds the chair, and has learned not only to control herself, but others. And of this growth and roundness her home and family reap a benefit they are slow in acknowledging, but which they evidence involuntarily.

Indeed, to speak of woman's influence in her family is to speak at once of the breadth and depth and power of her development. Those helpless men who are forever crying after their mothers and bemoaning the degeneracy of women of the present day, fill the air and the papers with their demands for "woman's influence." But they always insist that woman's influence is needed in religious matters only. Evidently they think of the stalwart women of Weinsberg, who marched out to safety, each bearing her husband on her shoulders, and expect our women to squeeze through the heavenly portals, handicapped with a similar burden. And may St. Peter have mercy on the bachelors!

If ever the world is to be saved, women have got to do it, I believe, and to that end I would have her faculties trained to their utmost, her capabilities developed, her powers quickened and her observation cultivated. One of the best and quickest means to accomplish this is the bringing women together in these organizations.

One of the first things this does is to lift the woman outside of herself. She learns there are others about her beside those of her immediate circle. She discovers that there are subjects of interest other than abnormally bright children or indifferent servants. She finds, too, that the theory she has heard advanced at home, that women are either fools or dolls or drudges is open to argument. She observes that a keenly intellectual woman is often the best dressed among them, and possibly is made conscious of the fact that even a "Woman Suffragist" is habilitated like other people, and that a woman doctor is not attired like a cow-boy.

She gets used to speaking to numbers and becomes accustomed to the sound of her own voice. She learns to differ from expressed opinions good naturedly. She experiences the limitations of debate, and withal, she learns to bear defeat philosophically.

That is to say—she should! This is to be one of the emancipative effects of women's clubs. Here they are to learn the important lesson of self-control, acquire the broadening out of the judicial faculty and forgetfulness of the narrow emotions of self love, so often mis-called "sensitiveness." Men smile or sneer when organizations of women are mentioned, because they say women bring to them habits of desultory speaking and undisciplined thought. That they bring their small envies and jealousies. That they are afraid to vote their convictions as against the wishes of a neighbor and consider failure in an election as evidence of personal spite. Now when men say all this they say what is often true. We shall not cure the evil by ignoring the truth, neither is it remedied by loudly asserting the statement to be false. Let us look the matter squarely in the face and confess that these things are sometimes, nay, are often true. Women bring what they have, and because they need more is why they come to the club.

If the faults men attribute to us exist, then the need also exists for a correction of these faults.

How far we are inherently responsible for them is another question. To settle that satisfactorily it will be necessary to create another world, reverse in it the relative conditions which have governed men and women in this, and then, at the end of six thousand years, compare notes. If then men are shown to have come out better than the present woman has, we'll yield gracefully, confess our inferiority, and meekly throw up the sponge. But pending such an experiment, for which only our theosophical friends can afford to wait, we have the present

duty of making the most of ourselves as things now stand, and if the criticisms of men are often unjust and more often flippant, there is yet no reason why we shall not profit by them when we can.

In forming a club, the first aim of all its members must be to bring themselves into harmony with the real design of the organization, and thus make its interest the pervading motive of all action by the sinking of individual aims and feelings into the background. For the time being, a common interest demands common effort, united intelligence and undeviating attention.

The average woman, men say, is lacking in self-control and does not "know how to keep her tongue still." This is largely true, and is the first lesson to be learned in the club. This forms the foundation of club courtesy and club loyalty. All personal matters, likes and dislikes, must be left behind when women come to the club. On club ground all private animosities and preferences MUST be set aside and only an absolutely impartial self take part in the proceedings. It is a superlative condition of rudeness if incivility be evidenced in the club; for this is pre-eminently a club duty and club education. The woman who has not learned this has not yet learned the first lesson that the club curriculum presents.

Then comes the matter of "holding the tongue," as the men say; of "club loyalty," as we say. All club matters are as sacredly confidential as if under the oaths of Free Masons. It is the "Hall-mark" of self-respect and good breeding. The woman who goes out and talks of the votes and doings of a committee meeting or a club session has forgotten her dignity, violated her club loyalty, and deserves all the opprobrium she gets.

And you may be sure she gets it. Gets it from both sexes. Women vituperate her and men sneer at her; and yet, sifted right down to foundation fact, it simply means that she is still in the infancy of her club life and has yet to be weaned from the milk of vanity and puling inefficiency. And perhaps there is no other one way in which women need the development of organization more.

Men talk of doing things on a "business basis." The one watchword of the male element of society is "business." Women can and should arrive at the same result, but from a principle more in keeping with their nature. Men propose and oppose measures, cross swords in debate, win or lose elections seemingly without a heartburn and harboring not an atom of acrimony for their antagonists; which only means, they put their wounded vanity and anger in their pockets, which answers every purpose from the club standpoint—and all because they look upon it as in the way of "business." With women the same result may be obtained from loftier motives. The best good of the club should be her motive in all her relations to it, and hence success or defeat does not affect her, except as it is for or against the welfare of the club.

Practically no woman should feel that her club relations are any part of her individualized self outside of it. No opposition to her views as there expressed has anything to do with the personal feeling for her held by her opponent. If nominated for office even her best friend may, without unkindness, vote against her, because she honestly believes her not so well fitted in that special line as some other. Shall she, then, be angry with her friend because the very integrity for which she loves her leads to an opposing vote?

Personal feeling must be left behind in the business of an organization. It is to this that club life must eventually bring thoughtful women. It is in clubs that her vagaries and mistakes are most open to observation and scoffing criticism. And it is here that her growth is most rapidly fostered, and by the infinite law of compensation she gains most by giving most.

When woman has learned to go to her club regularly and on time, to listen attentively to uninteresting but necessary details, to think up intelligently the subjects she wishes to discuss, to put a motion briefly and clearly, to listen to truth, untruth or twaddle without interruption, to address the chair instead of the last speaker, to speak so every member present can hear, to leave out all personalities and irrelevant matter, and to accept defeat without resentment, she has reached a point where she can afford to smile at the sneers of the parliamentary sex.

But she must reach this point, and that MUST begins with a big M. A woman must learn these things or else go back to the accepted sex position of the Middle Ages. The nineteenth century has no use for her.

When men say that we are weak, irresponsible and unreasonable, let them say it in the face of such dignity and courtesy, such fair unselfishness as shall stamp the accusation a falsehood in the eyes of all.

And this matter of speaking so that all can hear is one of the chief methods of keeping up the interest of a club. Members are not likely to feel any anxiety as to the result of a motion they did not hear, or to have their votes influenced by a discussion that was inaudible. In such cases, many members will not vote at all, and apathy in voting is one of the surest means of torpor and final death. Added to the interest that will be developed by distinctly hearing what is being discussed, there is a certain magnetism in a clearly given expression of opinion which arouses either prompt approbation or intelligent opposition. It holds everybody's attention, and the originator of a motion has the satisfaction of knowing that it was understood and voted upon by everybody, and whether gained or lost, she is better satisfied than to have it die the death of indifference or stupidity. And this is also brought up by our masculine censors. They say, "Women never speak so anybody can hear."

If it is a part of good breeding to speak "gently and low" in one's own parlor, it is just as much a necessity of good breeding to speak so as to be heard in a larger room and in a club meeting, inasmuch as the speaker is addressing all and speaking for all. In no other way can a club become dignified or useful.

Very recently I was present when Rev. Mr. Blank presented his little daughter to a voice trainer, saying: "Last week I attended a missionary meeting at which several of the speakers were women. Much they said was inaudible, though naturally, from the subject, we all desired to hear. I decided then and there to bring my daughter to you that she might be so trained that if ever she had to speak in a large room she should be able to let her audience know what she was trying to say."

Men say we scramble for office and cry and go into hysterics if we fail. Knowing as we do that men never strive for official positions, this disinterested criticism should have weight with us. It is undoubtedly true, and the wonder is that, with no precedent within the masculine sphere on which to base the estimate, they should have seen so clearly into the workings of a nature so entirely different from their own. The average woman, though undoubtedly an angel, has been freighted with a few human qualities to hold her own during the period of her stay on earth, and her plunge into the hitherto unknown world outside her own door often develops at first a desire for preferment. But a short experience of the mutuality of the club cures this. She soon comes to know that she is not one alone, but the part of a whole. And by this you may know the recruit from a veteran—the true club woman from the spurious member, seeking personal aggrandizement.

In a newspaper article some time ago the writer said: "It is a singular characteristic of humanity that the moment a man enters a club he is apt to think of some elective office," and the writer adds, that becoming politic to this end, he "kills his in-

dividuality of thought and courage of expression." Here is internal evidence that men do desire office, while we in our commendable womanliness have conceded that they do not. This masculine critic was proving from his standpoint that club life for men was undesirable. As he expressed it: "In the best of clubs a man runs the risk of destroying himself."

The same danger lies before women, if they allow themselves to be influenced by the same motives. Seeking preferment in the club will stultify a woman's heart and brain surely, but not more surely than the pathetic scramble for social position outside the clubs, we so constantly see. The matter is apparent to every on-looker in either case. The woman who spends her thoughts and aspirations in effort to pull herself into the "upper set" may gain her world, but she has lost her soul in doing it, and the woman who wastes her club privileges in effort for office will have lost the good her club might have given her and gained little else than criticism and contempt.

And now a word for the officers. They have been placed in their positions by the votes of the members and are to be sustained. To do otherwise would be to confess that votes were cast unworthily or unwisely, and either mistake cannot be remedied by sulkiness or rebellion. Each member should feel that if the officers are inattentive or inefficient, it was partly her fault in that they were elected, and whether it was or not, she must at any rate share the responsibility of helping to keep things right until another election and then be sure of the integrity of her vote.

This brings us to still another of the stones which have been thrown at us. "Women don't consider their votes; they cast them under the constraint of some emotional issue and then back-bite the very officers they have elected." This, too, is sometimes true. It is the necessity of the still formative condition in which woman finds herself, but out of which she is rapidly lifting herself without an encouraging pull from that stronger hand on which she is supposed to lean.

Thus you see we can turn these piled up criticisms into so many steps by which to get above the conditions which make them true.

A recent writer says:

"It is a difficult matter for the untrained mind to discover the sharp and positive line that separates personal opinion and the right of personal activity from the opinion of the organization represented, and the activity in behalf of any object approved by the organization the worker represents. And here, at this critical point, women too often make blunders. It is unmoral if not immoral to present one's personal view as that of the body represented, unless the personal view has by vote been made the expression of the organization."

"Another thing women must learn is that all public service operates under law. Full command of her powers comes only when she has learned that she is a small, very small unit in a gigantic whole and regulates her words and actions by this comprehension of public affairs."

She must realize that club action becomes her public law without regard to her private opinion, and that while in office she is there to serve under club command. If unwilling to do this, resignation is all that is left for her.

A word now of the duties of officers.

They should be always in attendance or send assurance that they have not forgotten the meeting. Each should, by previous preparation, know what particular work she has for that particular session. Memoranda should be at hand by which she can readily bring it up without the delay of turning over papers and opening envelopes. There should be no need of long consultations with other officers, and no "waits" between busi-

ness. The president should feel the prerogatives of her office, and demand the conventional respect due to it. She should be strict in enforcing the etiquette of parliamentary usage, prompt in her insistence of order, and impartial in her requirement of the acceptance of the situation. The amenities of every day life, the courtesies of the fireside, the shades of social customs, are here overruled by the autocratic decisions of Roberts or Cushing and the president is in office for the purpose of carrying out these decisions.

The recording secretary should read her report as if she was interested in it and anxious to have everyone hear whether it is correct or not. And every one should hear, for upon it depends much of the success of the club; that its past history be an augury for the future. It is not at all an uncommon thing that the recording secretary, who has to hear a second thing while she is writing the first and looking out for the third, makes an error which she, last of all, wishes to go on the record book and which every member is bound to correct. Yet by inattention or tardiness this error is allowed to stand to prove a source of dissension at some future day. It is the manifest duty of every member to hear these records, correct or accept them, or concerning them forever after hold her peace.

The corresponding secretary should cultivate the power of giving out her communications understandingly and clearly. She frequently has matters to present which are of general interest, and if Mrs. Harold Brown has written a letter to the club, Mrs. Brown has a right to expect that it shall be worthily read.

Then the report of the treasurer. It is not enough to "accept" it. It should be heard and understood. Each member should have the same interest in it as in the account of her household expenses. She is personally interested in the disbursement of the club funds and in knowing how much remains in the treasury.

Some organizations of women have fallen into the error of endeavoring to combine both formal and social conditions. This comes radically from a certain timidity lest too austere adherence to rules bring with it a tinge of masculinity. The best argument against this is the old proverb that "A thing that is worth doing at all is worth doing well." There is another argument in the fact, for it is a fact, that there is danger in such a course. It is only the exceptional president, with great and varied experience, that can safely steer the club ship through the devious and unknown channels of social freedom. But with parliamentary law to stand upon, her decisions can be fearless and debate can be controlled. Without this, much of the broadening and helpful effect of club association and intercourse is lost. With it, the woman's club becomes a dignified and worthy influence in the world's progress.

From this high ground which women's clubs have taken, there will eventually be sent out an influence which the whole world must feel, and which shall develop an active assertive force, binding members together by strong bands of mutual interest and welding them into one golden ingot out from which shall be stamped the royal coin of the realm.

Now we offer a vote of thanks to these men whose criticisms have helped us to "See ourself's as others see us," even if they do see us as merely the distorted reflection in the bowl of a punch ladle. It's the best they can do probably and we'll not fail to profit by them. They can smoke, swear, chew, play poker and things better than we can, and any woman in her senses must acknowledge their superiority in this line; but if we can't equal them in all things, let us at least try to emulate them in such ways as our limited capabilities render possible.

The Club Woman is only \$1.00 a year.

MRS. CASEY AT THE WOMAN'S CLUB.

Irene Stoddard Capwell, Philadelphia.

"**P**HWAT'S this Oi hear, Mrs. Casey?" asked Mrs. Flanigan of her friend, the other morning. "Shure Mary Ann tills me ye're afther j'inin' a cloob."

"Indade, Mrs. Flanigan, Oi am that," responded Mrs. Casey with complacency. "'Tis a foine t'ing t' belong to a cloob nowadays, tho' sorra the cloob was ivver heard av in the ould counthry, barrin' the bit av shillaleh that ye moight see at Donnybrook fair. Faith, that wan was a thrifle more loively than the new koind, Oim thinkin'."

"And phwat loike is this wan?"

"Shure this wan is fer the incurridgement av litterachoor and arrt an' the name av it is the Minervy Cloob."

"Named afther Minervy Sullivan, Oi suppose?"

"Minervy Sullivan indade! Divil a bit! Did yees nivver hear av Minervy, the Goddess av Wisdom? Moy! but ye're ignorant, Mrs. Flanigan. Shame till ye!" and Mrs. Casey looked down contemptuously upon her benighted neighbor from the heights of her newly acquired knowledge.

"Faix, af Oi had the namin' av anny'ting," retorted the incensed Mrs. Flanigan, "Oi'd rather be namin' it afther a daycint Christian gyrrl than wan av thim dirrthy haythin throllops. Shure nivver wan av thim ivver had clothes enough to pit an thim fer to go into rispictible sassiety, an sorra a ting did they ivver do fer a livin' but sit an a cloud."

"No more do the angels in Hivven, Mrs. Flanigan, barrin' playin' an hairrps now an' thin, but whisht now, till Oi till yees about the cloob. Ye see Mrs. Gilhooley is the prizzidint. 'Twas she that staired it, so av course they elicted her prizzidint."

"An' phwat does she do?"

"Oh, she sits oop an the platform an' calls the matin' t' arrdher be rappin' an the table wid a t'ing they calls a gravul, tho' be the same toaken 'tis more loike a shmall croquet mallet, so it is. Thin she tills the sickritary (that's me daughther Mary Ann), to rade the minnuts. Thim do be the prosadins av' the lasht matin' which Mary Ann is afther wroiting down in a book. Thin Mrs. Gilhooley siz 'The minnuts bees approved,' and calls fer the trizzurer to make a report."

"Who's the trizzurer?"

"Mrs. McGinty, that lives around the carner ferninst the saloon. She has a foine hid fer figgers. Whin she has the re-poort rid, some wan gits a move an that it be adopted. 'Adopted it is,' siz Mrs. Gilhooley. Thin there bees the re-poorts av commytees; there's a lot av thim. Mrs. O'Flynn is chairman av the raycption Commytee, an' it's illigant she is, an' Judy O'Connor is chairman av the house commytee. She does be lookin' afther the hall an the foornichoor an' rowin' the janitor, bad cess to the dirrthy naygar! 'Tis Judy that kin do that to the quane's taste. 'Twud warm yer heart to hear her."

"Thin there bees the progum commytee. They names the papers that's to be rid an' picks out the wan's that's to wroite thim. Shure we had a foine wan last wake. 'Twas an the Rainysinse. 'Twas Biddy O'Toole read it an' it was joost grand! Biddy has been goin' to the loiberry ivvery day fer a wake to rade the cyclepedies, an' she knew ahl about the Rainysinse."

"An' phwat is it?" asked Mrs. Flanigan.

"Doan't yees know phwat the Rainysinse is?"

"That Oi doan't, unless it bees the koind av sinse ye have to coom in whin it rains. Bedad, Oi t'ink 'twud not hurt Biddy O'Toole t' have a little o' that, tho' 'tis not in the cyclepedy she'll foind ut."

"'Tis you fer a joake, Mrs. Flanigan, but that's not the koind av sinse this is at ahl at ahl. It's—it's—why—oh, phwat

is it now? Shure Oi know as aisy as atin', but Oi havn't the flow av language to ixpriss mesilf. It's—oh, begorra it's some new koind av a shtatoot it is; that's ahl. The cloob does be givin' a cyard parrthy nixt wake to raise some money to boy picthers fer the schools. Will yees be afther boyin' a ticket av me I dinnaw?"

"That Oi'll not! Oi don't approve av ut. Picthers indade! Phwat nixt will they be wantin? Shure, 'tis disthactin' enough they bees already wid flowers in the windys an' the loike o' that. Me Micky's that harrd wurked wid mud maps an' dhrawin' and huntin' boogs an' shtones that he hasn't had toime fer a shindy wid Pat Foley fer a wake, an' its nadin' a batin' he is, that b'y. Shure, Mrs. Casey dear, Oi do be fearin' nairrvs prosthraashin fer Mickey!" and Mrs. Flanigan sighed dolefully.

"Besoides, look at the ixpinse," she went on, "Faix, but 'tis a waste to be puttin' good money into bran new picthers phwin there do be plinty av ould wans that moight be shpared. Oi have a foine wan mesilf av St. Pathrick dhroivin' the shnakes from ould Oireland. 'Tis hand painted it is, be me cousin Mary O'Grady. It has an illigant goald frame an it barrin' wan av the carrners is broke. 'Twas hung in the parlor over the chimney till a year ago whin me man tuk it down. He sid he nivver did be lukkin' at it widout t'inken 'twas the trimmins he had. Yees may have it for the cloob if ye loike."

"Indade, 'tis koind av ye, Mrs. Flanigan, an' Oi'll name ut to the commytee, but ye naden't be thrubbled about the ixpinse. Shure picthers is chape now. They bees a man down town who paints picthers in a windy an Shtate street; foine large illigint wans they be, landshcapes an' sayshcapes. Ye can boy a shmall soized wan fer a quarther an' a larrge wan fer fifty sints. If the cyarrd parrthy is succissful we kin boy shlathers av thim."

"So ye can; that's grand! And did yees ivver shpake at the cloob yersilf, Mrs. Casey?"

"Nivver but wanst, an' thin they didn't lave me shpake."

"Ye know that little impident hizzy av a Katie Murphy, doan't ye? The sassy t'ing! She do be always jumpin' up an' foindin' fault an' objectin' 'til she do ma-ake me that toired, 'twud aise me sowl to shlap the oogly fa-ace av her. Will, wan day Mary Ann had been rading the minnuts, an' that little shpalpeen jumped up and sid there was somethin' wrang wid 'em. Oi forgit now phwat it was, but 'twas no such a t'ing, an' Oi rose t' me fate an' sid that sa-ame."

"'Madam Prizzidint, the mumber is out av arrdher,' siz she. Oi knowed that was a loy, fer Mary Ann always does be lookin' me over before Oi go to the cloob, and she does be that pertikler she laves me no rist. So Oi siz."

"'Tis yerself that's out av arrdher!' Oi siz."

"'Will the mumber plaze address the chair,' siz Mrs. Gilhooley. 'Phwich wan?' Oi siz, lookin' around to see if 'twas me own she mint. 'Oi mane shpake to the chairman, manning mesilf,' she siz. 'Virry will, mum!' Oi siz. 'Tis yersilf can see wid half an oye that Katie Murphy's hat is on crookit, an' there's a shmut an her nose, an' the braid av her skirrt is thrailin' an the flure. 'Tis not fer the loikes av her to be callin' a daycint woman out av arrdher,' Oi siz. 'Sit down!' siz Mrs. Gilhooley. 'Sit down!' siz Biddy O'Toole who was sittin' ferninst me, an' she gave me a jurruck into me chair that came near knockin' ivvery tooth out av me hid; so I had no more chanst to shpake me moind that day, but just wait till Oi catch her! Oi'll aise me falins! Out av arrdher, indade!"

LECTURERS.

Should send for our special rates. The Club Woman offers exceptional opportunities for reaching women's clubs all over the country.

ART IN COMMON THINGS.

By Mrs. Harriet L. Rice of Providence. (Read before the Illinois Convention.)

OPPORTUNITIES for the cultivation of aesthetic judgment have never been greater than at present.

More artists and clever artisans than ever before are devoting their time and talents to making beautiful the every day things that people use and wear.

It is true that comparatively few people can buy these beautiful things which are the handiwork of an artist, but we can all buy better things because some one is able to buy the fine art product.

The demand for these finer things sets the standard for the manufacturers, so that it is possible to find better designs in the shops. To quote a Boston woman, an interior decorator: "There never was a time when it was possible to furnish a house so well for so little money."

It is also true that there never was a time when discrimination in selection was so necessary.

Profusion is the order of the day, and that means confusion to the shopper unless she has good taste. Competition is so keen and the desire for novelty so great that meretricious designs are continually being put upon the market to attract the uncultivated taste.

The one great art principle which should guide the buyer as well as the designer is fitness to purpose. That principle includes and is the final test of the chief elements of beauty when applied to the design of things intended for use. Nothing could be more graceful or beautiful than the flowing lines of the Greek costume, but we have only to imagine it worn in our streets on a rainy day, to see that it is less fit, consequently less beautiful for the purpose than the American rainy day costume, made popular by a few women who chose to exercise their judgment in such matters, instead of following the dictates of fashion.

Suitability and durability of material are questions of fitness to purpose, and white satin binding soon gives a book the same appearance of shabby gentility that white lace curtains would have in a railroad station, or silks and laces for every day business wear.

A kitchen is often better furnished, judged from the standard of fitness, than the parlor, because every article is bought for utility, and the room itself has one single definite use. The complex uses of a living room complicate the problem in furnishing, but they must be solved according to the family tastes and the family needs. Beware of "cosy corners" that fill a room with useless lumber, of tables that tip over, and of chairs that look and feel as though they were never meant to sit in. Simplicity is one great lesson we have to learn, and there is often as much satisfaction in not having the things you don't want, as in having the things that you do want.

Honesty of construction appeals to any sincere person and the lack of it in one's household belongings is almost as trying as insincerity in one's friends.

There is a certain adaptability in design which is not insincerity. Nothing could be more honest in its construction than the Morris chair, which may be so easily changed in its character by altering the slant of the back.

The old-fashioned folding tables and chair tables of colonial times accommodated themselves to their surroundings as cheerfully as did the women of that day, and honestly served two purposes, but what shall we say of the modern folding bed which boldly stands up all day declaring itself to be a wardrobe.

A thing which answers perfectly the demands of utility in

its adaptation to purpose, which is made of suitable material, which is sincere in design and honest in construction will never be offensive, but it may be utterly lacking in the elements of beauty.

An artist adapts the proportion or shape of his picture to the leading lines in the composition. Such a scene as this,—a quiet country church with a tall spire, and Lombardy poplars—demands at once a vertical oblong as the shape that would harmonize best with its main lines, but for a scene in which the principal lines are horizontal, the vertical oblong is not pleasing. In the same way, a high-backed Dutch chair has its stateliness and quaintness enhanced by vertical lines, while the horizontal divisions are more in keeping with a low, broad chair.

The relation of spaces is a question of relative proportions. This marine view gives opposition of line, but no variety in spacing. A horizontal line placed lower or higher, and boats at varying distances from each other and from the observer, give variety, and consequently more interest. In the panelling of a door, though it is for utilitarian reasons, there is the opportunity to make it more beautiful by a pleasing opposition of line and space division.

Fanciful designs often have a peculiar and individual charm, but there is danger of their being merely whimsical. The old-fashioned cow-creamer and hen egg dish are notable examples of fancy run wild, while the Chelsea plates suggestive of Welsh rarebit show fancy controlled by the laws of design.

There is nothing which so makes or mars perfection as color, but about many of the fashionable combinations of color shown in the shops the only thing to be said is "Don't."

Don't have a white and gold reception room if you expect to receive your friends in a gray serge. Choose the paper for your wall as a background for yourself and your belongings.

If you use quiet tones of gray green, or soft dull reds for the wall and draperies, relieve the quietness by a little pure color well chosen. A vase of flowers, a screen, some sofa pillows, a table cover, may add to your room the touch of brightness that a red cloak gives to a winter landscape.

The great charm of life is the beauty that we may have if we desire it and look for it.

REST ROOMS.

"THE rest room of Rochester, Minn., is an outgrowth of a Woman's Club," writes Mrs. A. F. Faitoute to *The Club Woman*. "The club was at first like all clubs devoted to culture and self-improvement. Then a feeling that they would like to do something for others came up, and the rest room was suggested by the State President, Miss Margaret Evans. The club was already organized, having a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer, when, in the spring of 1895, a committee was appointed to call upon the business men, stating their plans and asking their aid and support. They responded generously, agreeing to give a small sum of money each month. When enough was pledged to warrant the expense, a room was rented, the city giving light and water. The room is open from nine A. M. until six P. M., the members of the club acting as hostesses each day, one in the morning and one each afternoon. The club membership is about eighty, so that no one is called upon oftener than once a month, except in case of illness. We have a book where visitors register, and some months there are seven and eight hundred names entered. There is a mite box in a conspicuous place and a card which explains its use on the wall beside it.

"The room is furnished with easy chairs, lounges, rugs and a cradle that is often occupied, also a lunch table that is concealed

by a screen, where farmers' wives and children may eat their lunch in a quiet way. Fresh towels are furnished each day. A boy attends to the coal stove and a woman cleans up the room. The room is a storing and distributing point for the benevolent society; they run an industrial school every Saturday morning, where girls are taught plain sewing by a committee of ladies appointed by the president.

"They also have eight travelling libraries donated by the members of the club and managed by a committee at the rooms. Two of our home daily papers and the St. Paul Globe are donated, and altogether it is a cheery room, right in the business part of town and down stairs.

"This room is beyond the experimental stage; it begins to look as if it had come to stay, as every one protests against its being closed, it is such a restful place. One tired woman said, who had come to town with five children, riding nine miles in a farm wagon to get there, "It's hard to properly estimate the importance of such work as is being done here, for much of it is like seeds scattered upon the earth to lie dormant and forgotten, but which, after a while, spring up into beauty." This work has been given to make the lives of others more comfortable, and in coming into contact with them we better understand and sympathize with them."

In Kansas the Lady Somerset Club of Burlington has established a "rest room," which has been in successful operation for more than six months, constantly growing in popularity and influence. As one enters the broad doorway, the word "Welcome," suspended from the ceiling at the further end of the room, gives an assurance of its sincerity as the visitor accepts the easy chair proffered by the member in charge. A highly polished stove with a bright coal fire makes comfortable this homelike place. A large center table, with its pretty cover, embroidered in white and yellow—the handiwork of a member—is covered with books, magazines, papers and fashion plates.

These wise women do not forget the children who are often compelled to spend a long, tiresome day in town, and so have provided picture books with stories for their amusement. Several easy and restful rocking chairs are grouped about and a couch, roomy and tastefully covered, is a favor indeed with its numerous pillows, for the woman with the headache. A prettily draped dressing case ornaments one side of the room with all the necessary toilette articles. Pictures are here and there, and a set of shelves fills up another corner and shows a variety of pretty home-made articles. Some one with hammer and saw constructed a wonderful folding screen, mysteriously hiding from curious eyes still greater glories.

If there is an article wanting in this much appreciated corner it hath not yet entered into the mind of the tired woman from the country to feel its lack. A lavatory with big pitchers of cool, clean water and plenty of clean towels, wash cloths, brushes, soaps and combs galore are here, ready for use. Here she can dispose of the dust gathered on the highway, arrange her dishevelled tresses, and emerge "a new woman" ready for business. Then there are small tables placed conveniently with work baskets, containing needles, thread, buttons, scissors, thimbles and all things necessary for repairs. Pretty home-made rugs give an air of comfort, and slumber robes for the couch shows thoughtfulness on the part of those in charge. Indeed, to read about it makes the tired city club woman sigh for a rest room.

BOYS' CLUBS.

By Kate Upson Clark.

The modern tendency toward organization is well nigh universal. People are separated into groups on every conceivable basis. Mental peculiarities no longer figure as the chief considerations in such matters. We have tall men's clubs, fat men's

clubs, clubs for stammerers and for cross-eyed individuals, and one of the cleverest tales of one of the great story writers is entitled the "Red-Headed League." In this all-embracing movement, it is not strange that the children share. We have in every large community many clubs for boys and girls.

Some of these are probably more or less beneficial, according to the object sought, though it is doubtful whether the passion for office, which is apt to be awakened by club-life, is very good for the children. It is also unquestionably trying for young heads to be subjected to the ordeal of early prominence, with all the flattery and power which such prominence entails. Yet young people's clubs must be officered, and usually from among themselves, and the scramble for the honors in these juvenile societies is sometimes very pitiable.

A comparatively recent development of this modern mania may be found in many of our cities, where boys of from fourteen to eighteen, perhaps the most flighty and insubordinate age of man, are permitted by their parents to rent rooms and gather weekly or oftener, in Greek letter or other secret societies. It is a tenet of these absurd little groups that not only their constitution and purposes, but also their regular proceedings should be secret. It is a point of honor with them that no boy should tell his parents what goes on at the club-rooms. It is asserted by the boys that everything is "all right, of course," and this seems to satisfy the average parent. It would appear to some of us, however, as though a higher premium than is afforded by a club like this could scarcely be placed upon degeneration, and that a parent could hardly head a boy more accurately toward ruin than by letting him join such an organization.

"But," the parent says, "the other boys are nice fellows. We know the parents of some of them and they are excellent people." Yes, but we all know excellent people whose children are scoundrels. And as for the boys themselves, it is impossible, at such an early age to know precisely what they are. They are usually at the age of fifteen or thereabout a mere formless mass of soft wax. They may be, so far, pure and good; but they are influenced by the sheerest trifles; few of them have attained to any strong and tried principles, and they are utterly unfit to herd off by themselves, in the pursuit of pleasure, under circumstances which make it almost impossible for their parents to find out what they are doing. Among a set of ten or fifteen boys, there is likely to be at least one tricky youngster, who can blacken the whole company, more or less, in a few weeks' or months' time. In larger societies the proportion of bad boys is likely to be even greater. Frightful results have attained the formation of such clubs, but the parents of boys who are injured by them have only themselves to blame.

If your boys want to form a club have it meet in the homes of the members. That will at least reduce the chances of misdoing to a minimum. No boys are fit to occupy club-rooms of their own, until they are at least twenty-one years old, and the age had better be thirty. The excesses and vice that are apt to attend the club-life of very young men have passed into a proverb. As for secret societies in themselves, most sensible people can give them only a smile. Whatever secrets well-bred people hold in common would seem in times of peace and in a state of freedom and civilization to be much better held in the sight of all. If such societies are for the moral improvement of the world it is hard to see how that end is better served by secrecy than by openness. If the secrets are held merely for the sake of having secrets, they are silly and childish. Boys' secret societies are usually merely silly. The silliness is not likely to be very harmful if it is confined within the walls of their homes, but it is likely to turn into poison if it is allowed to accumulate and spread at its own sweet will in hired club-rooms, where nobody is responsible to any higher power, and where amusement is the sole object.

THE BATTENBERGERS.

By Cora B. Bickford, Biddeford, Me.

IF you would be enlightened as to the amount of intelligent discourse and ready wit that often flavor the atmosphere of our city sewing circles—better known as clubs—you should drop in at a regular meeting of The Battenbergers. I use the expression "drop in" in a figurative sense, for be it known that one who visits here must do so by formal invitation from some one of the dozen devoted members.

I had hoped for such an invitation, had been anticipating, and it came one morning as I lingered over a second cup of coffee after a late breakfast. The invitation read:

"My Dear Miss C.—The Battenbergers conclave at three tomorrow afternoon at 135 South Street. Threads caught at 4.15; tea and wafers served at 4.30. All will count it a pleasure to have you visit with us. Yours cordially,

Josephine Blank."

I accepted the invitation by the noon mail, and on the following afternoon rang the bell at 135 South Street just five minutes before three o'clock. My wraps were given to the little maid in waiting, and I was shown into the cosy library to find the members of the club already assembled. Punctuality is a pledge of membership, and when the onyx mantle clock had rounded out three musical strokes the president rose and tapped decisively upon the table with the end of her gold thimble.

The roll call was next in order, the only delinquent member sending a humble note of apology which was accepted in form, and acted upon according to up-to-date parliamentary usage.

Quotations followed, and in most cases the individuality of the person was emphasized by the selection made. The efficient president leads off with:

"Here we may reign secure, and in my choice
To reign is worth ambition."

There is a roguish twinkle in the blue eyes of the secretary as she responds:

"My wants are many, and if told would muster many a score;
And were each wish a mint of gold I still would long for more."

Here there is a little pause, broken by the mellow voice of a member across the room:

"Who would care to pass her life away
Of the Lotos-land, a dreadful denizen?
Lotos-island in a waveless bay,
Sung by Alfred Tennyson."

After the quotations there is a silence that would seem ominous were it not for the absorption with which each bends over her particular doily, or center, or scarf. I take this opportunity to ask my nearest neighbor what is the topic for the afternoon's conversation. She gives me a look of surprise, but before she can speak a thread snaps and there is a smothered exclamation.

"As cruel as the thread of fate!" quotes the wide-awake secretary.

"But I have secured the thread, forming a more satisfactory center and making a stronger hold thereby. Two points gained, and fate thwarted," replies the repairer of the accident.

"And is it not ever so?" says the metaphysical member who until now has kept silent in her corner by the book-case.

"Are we not able to overcome all if we will? Senna helps us with his thought, 'It is mind that makes us rich and happy in what condition soever we are, and money signifies no more to us than it does to the gods.'"

"And will you deny that this is a bank-note world?" asks the secretary with a quick tilt of the head. "Are my wants to be supplied by the aroma of such philosophy? Oh, caramels and soda cream! no more shall thy flavors entice."

But here the newest comer to the club, a neophyte in the Battenberg lines, claims the attention of all. Her face shows mingled consternation and despair. She has made a spider without any leg to go off on, and she holds up her work with a helplessness that throws the entire company into paroxysms of laughter.

But the secretary's voice comes to the rescue: "We have only to think, girls. Think! and a leg of spider-like proportions will appear. Your thoughts will take shape. That is the Maronian philosophy, is it not, sister?" addressing the metaphysical member.

"But how about faith without works," suggests the brown-eyed lady of dignity. "Whatever our philosophy do we not need to expand our ideas?"

"Oh, yes; expansion is in the air," says the timid member.

"But you needn't feel bad about it, my dear," replies the secretary with a wise shake of the head.

"No, for it is sure to come. I felt it in my bones when the modiste told me the number of yards to get for a spring costume. It's got to come, but I think it is lots more fun listening to the roar of the lion and the growl of the bear and wondering if they will ever try to devour each other, than it is bothering about our possessions in the East," says the neophyte, who has quite recovered from the mishap of the spider's leg.

"Yes," replies the president, "the lion may roar and the bear may growl, but they will never strike a blow. The one is afraid and the other hasn't and—and—well, they call that diplomacy."

"Exactly," says the secretary, "and it is diplomacy that holds us in check and keeps the world going at an even pace."

"But I don't see why we shouldn't favor expansion, and I don't see why we are not to admire pine-apple tissue and Manila lace, Marie Jonreau to the contrary," says the neophyte persistently.

"Oh, the toil we lost, and the spoil we lost,
And the excellent things we planned,
Belonged to the woman who didn't know why,
And now we know she never knew why
And did not understand,"

quotes the irrepressible secretary.

But the onyx clock has set its gilded hands at 4.15, the samovar which has been bubbling for some minutes sends forth a burst of steam, the president raps on the table with her finger tip, and the formalities of adjournment are gone through with.

Then there is a happy confusion of voices, and I draw my near neighbor of the afternoon one side to inquire why her look of surprise when I asked concerning the topic of conversation for the afternoon.

"Oh," she replied, "I thought you understood. We never know what the topic is to be. We just wait for the spirit to move, and some one is sure to begin."

The cups have been once emptied when the president proposes a toast to Our Sister Clubs. The samovar again yields up a supply, and we stand with poised cups while the secretary reads a rhyme that was written by a fellow towns-woman. She says:—

OUR SISTER CLUBS.

From self-same soil within a garden grew
Blossoms of varied shapes and beauty rare;
Their petals tossed by breezes hurrying by,
Threw perfume sweet upon the summer air.
So side by side, the stately and the gay,
These blossoms dwelt within the garden's space,—
Each helped to make its beauty more complete,
Each lent to each an added charm and grace.

Our sister clubs—a wealth of meaning lies
Beneath the surface of this simple phrase;
The purity of woman's truer self
Shines out to mark the steady flow of days.
The best that life may hold is counted here,
True culture, sterling worth, and beauty rare,—
These mingle in a grand harmonious whole,
Since each must give and each must have a share.

The sympathy so helpful and so sweet
That comes from hearts attuned to judge aright,
The thought that causes better thoughts to grow
Inspires our souls and wakes to truer sight.
Within the length of sisterhood is found
The kinship that our hungry hearts must crave,
By ties of common purpose are we bound,
We gather strength the storms of life to brave.

In loyalty to thee, our sister clubs,
To-day we pledge and bond ourselves anew,
We turn our faces towards the future's need,
We keep the heart's deep purpose still in view;
The strength alone that perfect union gives
Shall be our own as years in cycles run,
The true ideal by effort shall be gained,
And woman find her rightful work begun.

We drink to our sister clubs, the twilight has come, lingering good-bys are said, and the Battenbergers stand adjourned for one week.

PARLIAMENTARY, NOT SOCIAL.

Grace G. Wolfe, Mt. Vernon, Iowa.

As a reader of *The Club Woman* and as a member of a local club, I wish to express my opinion relative to a very interesting subject touched upon by a writer in the December issue. The idea was conveyed, in the article to which I refer, that it would be more beneficial to women in general if their club meetings were conducted more on a social order than parliamentary, that is to simply raise them about one degree above the ordinary "call" process, which it was admitted was giving way to the institution known as clubs. In other words, instead of raising women with one sweep from the intellectual stupor in which they have here-to-fore been reared, we would have them linger a little longer in the tete-a-tete atmosphere which has been their intellectual and consequently physical ruination for the ages past.

Yes, parliamentary rules are hard to learn and somewhat unsatisfactory when learned. But, if we are not going to try to raise ourselves intellectually, why do we claim to be men's equals? The majority of women are not. They are just what the majority of men think they are—very unsophisticated. Women wish to be the associates of men, can they be so with only being capable of conducting themselves through the mere formalities of a reception room, or perhaps, one of the most gilt-edged social functions? Women belong to the race of men, and if they wish to abolish the idea of class, as between men and women, they must eliminate the ever present idea of superiority. To do this they must prove their equality, and to do this they must surmount the obstacles, submit to regular forms of development, and among other things as an incidental take their dose of parliamentary law, learn to love it, and as a reward be able to converse intelligently, happily with their brothers and lead men to know that men and women all are beings of the same mould. Parliamentary meetings are rigid and may become uninteresting, but the members should fill the atmosphere

with such a wide and intellectual and energetic swing that that which first seemed bitter would grow into an inspiring pleasure. The parliamentary method is so broadening and it takes such a leap from the original form of association of women that let us hope, and put forth every effort, that the process of its growth may be great and rapid.

I have heard the argument made that women's clubs interfere with church work. I have never found it so. I have always found the churches kind to the women's clubs. Many of the clubs, particularly in the smaller towns, were first originated right in the church society. Where the club takes up any charity work it invariably does so because there is the need of the work, and there is plenty of room for the churches and the clubs to do all they desire.—Ellen M. Henrotin.

Mrs. Elizabeth Ballard Thompson has been appointed by the State Federation of Clubs chairman of its reciprocity bureau. The appointment is fitting, as it was Mrs. Thompson's paper on reciprocity at the second Biennial in Philadelphia which set in operation reciprocity between clubs. As a charter member and ex-president of the Ladies' Literary Club of Grand Rapids and vice-president of the City Federation, she is widely and favorably known. Many readers of Mrs. Croly's old "Cycle" will remember her as a contributor to that pioneer club journal.

Mrs. Avery of Wyoming, N. Y., the mother of Mrs. Coonley-Ward, who is well known as a prominent club woman of Chicago, is a wonderful example of the woman who persists in growing young. Although she is eighty-two years old, she conducts a "Wise Sayings Column" in the local paper of her town, copying and sending every week a full column of excellently chosen selections from the best authors. She has all the enthusiasm and almost all the activity of a girl. She is greatly interested in finance, in the Philippine and African questions, in suffrage and many other things.

Clubs are springing up all over our country like flowers in the sunshine, and they are sending forth a most beneficent influence. To some women they bring relief and relaxation, and introduce new elements of thought into life; to others they bring added duties. They point out the path, and the dormant energy of the woman is awakened. To some the new life will come through literature, music and art; through a better appreciation of the beautiful world we live in. To others the great economic problems of the day will be a field for labor and study. All tend to one great accomplishment—the advancement of the race.—Clara M. Farson, State President for Illinois.

In answer to a question in the Bazar, Margaret Hamilton Welch replies most pertinently: To your inquiry, "Can you suggest a club flower for our club?" there is a temptation to imitate Punch's well-known reply concerning matrimony—"Don't." The club movement seems to have outgrown club flowers. The important sociological, educational and philanthropic problems with which clubs now successfully deal take away the sentimental atmosphere of women's clubs as it existed when they were first formed. More and more, particularly in the large centers, are women using their clubs as working headquarters rather than social circles. The next five years will see this tendency greatly increased. Club flowers, club colors and club mottoes will obviously have lessened significance. They are emblematic of social and fraternal companionship, and in the changing character of club effort are likely to be infrequently adopted.

PARLIAMENTARY USAGE.

Mrs. Emma A. Fox.

XIII.
FORMS.

THERE are many forms of procedure which certain writers on parliamentary law, probably assuming that they are universally understood, omit to mention. Hence those whose knowledge of methods is derived entirely from books are apt to acquire habits which vary considerably from the best practice.

In this connection it may not be amiss to caution the young parliamentarian, who has carefully informed himself regarding the best usage, not to unnecessarily antagonize such a society by criticisms. It is generally wiser to accept temporarily the established custom of an assembly, provided it does not result in an injustice, than to appear singular or pedantic by insisting upon technicalities.

An illustration of some of the forms in common use will present them in a way in which they may be comprehended more clearly than by any description, and therefore a part of what might take place at a regular meeting of the Lakeville Woman's Club held January twenty-fifth, 1900, is herewith presented.

It must be understood that although these particular forms are recommended as those in vogue in assemblies which may well be considered as worthy models, there are other forms which are perhaps equally good or at least not amenable to criticism.

The reader must assume that the club is working under the constitution and by-laws which appear in Article XII. and that the articles published in *The Club Woman* under the title "Parliamentary Usage" constitute the authority for parliamentary law.

At three o'clock the president raps on the table with the gavel and says:

"The club will please come to order." As soon as order prevails and not before, she adds, "The secretary will call the roll."

It is customary for the president to stand while calling the club to order, while stating a motion or putting a motion to vote. At other times she stands or sits at her discretion.

The secretary then calls the roll of members alphabetically arranged.

Secretary.—Madam President, there is a quorum present.

President.—The chair appoints Mrs. A. critic for the day. We will listen to the minutes of the annual meeting.

Sec. (standing).—Madam President and members. (The secretary reads the minutes of the annual meeting of January eighteenth and takes her seat.)

Pres.—You have heard the minutes of the annual meeting. Are there any corrections? (Pauses a moment.) It there are no corrections the minutes stand approved as read. They are approved. The secretary will read the minutes of the adjourned annual meeting.

(The secretary stands, addresses the chair and the club, reads the minutes of the adjourned annual meeting and sits down.)

Pres.—Are there any corrections to these minutes?

Mrs. B. (standing).—Madam President.

Pres.—Mrs. B.

Mrs. B.—The minutes read that Mrs. C. received three votes for treasurer and Mrs. D. two. My recollection is that Mrs. D. received three votes and Mrs. C. two. (Mrs. B. sits down.)

Pres.—The chair is of the opinion that the record is correct. Mrs. B. (standing).—Madam President.

Pres.—Mrs. B.

Mrs. B.—I move that the minutes be amended so as to read that on the ballot for treasurer Mrs. D. received three votes and Mrs. C. two. (Mrs. B. sits down.)

Mrs. E. (standing).—Madam President.

Pres.—Mrs. E.

Mrs. E.—I second the motion. (Mrs. E. sits down.)

Pres.—It is moved and seconded that the minutes be amended so as to read that on the ballot for treasurer Mrs. D. received three votes and Mrs. C. two. Are there any remarks?

Miss F.—Madam President.

Pres.—Miss F.

Miss F.—I call for the reading of the report of the tellers on the ballot for treasurer.

Miss G.—I second the motion.

Pres.—If there is no objection the secretary will read the report.

Sec. (standing, reads).—Whole number of votes cast. .18

Necessary to a choice.10

Mrs. F. received.13

Mrs. C. received.3

Mrs. D. received.2

Pres.—Those in favor of the motion will please say Aye.

Mrs. H. (standing).—Madam President, what is the motion we are voting on?

Pres.—The question is upon the motion that the minutes be amended so as to read that on the ballot for treasurer Mrs. D. received three votes and Mrs. C. two votes.

Those in favor of the motion will please say Aye (members respond aye).

Those opposed say No (members respond no).

The motion is lost.

The question now recurs upon the approval of the minutes.

Are you ready for the question?

Mrs. I.—Madam President.

Pres.—Mrs. I.

Mrs. I.—The motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. H., not by Miss L.

Pres.—The secretary will make the change. Are there any further corrections? (Pauses a moment.) Those in favor of approving the minutes say Aye. Those opposed, No.

The motion is carried.

(No further mention will be made in this article of the fact that every member who speaks waits for recognition by the chair, nor of the seconding of motions.)

(The president then proceeds to announce the standing committees for the year, as provided in Article IV. of By-laws.)

Pres.—Is there a report from the corresponding secretary?

Cor. Sec.—Madam President and Members: (reads)

To the Lakeville Woman's Club:

Your corresponding secretary respectfully reports that she has notified all the officers who were elected last week of their election.

Respectfully submitted,

Fanny L. Jennings, Cor. Sec.

(The corresponding secretary passes the report to the recording secretary.)

Pres.—If there is no objection the report will be placed on file. It is so ordered. Is there any further report from the corresponding secretary?

Cor. Sec.—Madam President, I have a letter from Mrs. F., who was elected treasurer last week, declining to accept the office. (Cor. Sec. does not read the letter, but passes it to the Rec. Sec.)

Miss M.—Madam President, I move that the club proceed to elect a treasurer.

Pres.—The chair cannot entertain the motion at the present time. Has the Cor. Sec. anything further?

Cor. Sec.—Madam President, I am in receipt of a circular letter from the Educational Committee of the General Federation of Women's Clubs. Will you have it read?

Pres.—You may read it.

(The corresponding secretary reads the letter and passes it to the recording secretary.)

Mrs. K.—Madam President, I move that this letter be referred to the Program Committee.

Miss L.—Mrs. President, I should like to know which Program Committee is meant, the one appointed today or the one appointed a year ago.

Pres.—The Program Committee appointed today has no duties in connection with the program of the club for the current year and therefore the Program Committee appointed a year ago is meant.

(The motion is stated, discussed and voted on.)

Pres.—Is there anything further from the corresponding secretary?

Cor. Sec.—Nothing further, Madam President.

Pres.—Are there any special committees to report?

Mrs. N.—Madam President, the committee of which I am chairman is ready to report.

Pres.—We will listen to the report.

Mrs. N. (reads)—To the Lakeville Woman's Club:

Your committee to which was referred the motion that members of this club wear no birds on their hats this spring beg leave to report that, in their opinion, the club has no jurisdiction over its members as regards wearing apparel, and they therefore recommend that the further consideration of this question be indefinitely postponed.

Respectfully submitted,

Clara Nelson,
Mary Owen,
Estelle Parker.

I move the adoption of the report.

(The motion is voted upon.)

Pres.—Are there any other special committees ready to report? Shall we hear from the committee appointed to recommend rules?

(Chairman of committee reads report, which is adopted.)

Pres.—The next order of business is the election of members.

Mrs. Q.—Madam President, I move that the club proceed to ballot on the applications of Mrs. Pratt and Mrs. Moore.

(The president states the motion.)

Mrs. R.—Mrs. President, I move to lay on the table.

Pres.—The motion is carried. The next order is unfinished business. (Pauses.) The next is miscellaneous business.

Miss M.—Madam President, I move that the club proceed to elect a treasurer.

Miss S.—Mrs. President, I move that the rules be suspended and that election be by viva voce vote.

Pres. (to Miss S.)—Please specify the rule which your motion is intended to suspend.

Miss S.—Section IV. of Article I. of By-laws.

Pres.—The chair cannot entertain the motion.

Miss S.—Mrs. President, I made a mistake; I mean Section II. of Article IV. of the Constitution.

Pres.—The chair cannot entertain the motion.

Miss T.—Mrs. President, I appeal from the decision of the chair.

Pres.—The decision of the chair is appealed from. The

chair decided that the motion offered by Miss S. could not be entertained for the reason that we have no power to suspend any part of the constitution.

Miss T.—Mrs. President, I do not agree with the decision of the chair. According to my observation, which has not been altogether limited, a motion relative to the method of voting is always in order at any time before voting is begun. Would you, Mrs. President, entertain a motion that the secretary be instructed to cast the ballot?

Pres.—The chair will not decide that question unless the point is raised.

Miss T.—Then, Mrs. President, I move that the secretary be instructed to cast the unanimous ballot of the club for Mrs. D. for treasurer.

Pres.—The question is upon the appeal from the decision of the chair. (The reader will notice that the President has very properly disregarded Miss T.'s last motion.) Shall the decision of the chair stand as the judgment of the club? * * * * The chair is sustained.

Mrs. U.—Madam President, I move that when we adjourn we adjourn to meet next Saturday, January 27, at three in the afternoon.

Pres.—The motion prevails.

Mrs. U.—Madam President, I move that the regular order of business be suspended and that we now proceed to the program for the day.

(The motion prevails and the literary program is carried out for the day as per calendar.)

Mrs. V.—Mrs. President, I move that the club revert to the order of miscellaneous business.

(The motion prevails.)

Mrs. V.—Mrs. President, I move to reconsider the vote by which the motion that when we adjourn we adjourn to meet next Saturday was carried.

(The motion prevails.)

Mrs. V.—Mrs. President, I move to amend by substituting Monday, January 29, for Saturday, January 27.

(The motion prevails.)

Pres.—The question is now upon the motion as amended.

(The motion prevails.)

Miss W.—Mrs. President, I move to adjourn.

(The motion prevails.)

Pres.—The motion prevails. The club stands adjourned.

(To be Continued.)

The Students' Reference Bureau, which was organized in November, 1897, under the auspices of the Chicago Woman's Club, has proved helpful to many clubs and club women. Its purpose is to meet the needs of students, public speakers and writers, who are either at a distance from libraries for reference, or who have not the time at command to collect the desired data for their work. It offers information gathered from specialists and recognized authorities in the various departments of art, literature and science, and on historical, religious and social questions. Since its organization, the Bureau has received and replied to applications from nearly every State in the Union, also from Honolulu and from England. Several applications having been made for manuscripts on given subjects, and for papers which have already been publicly read, it has been decided to furnish these, when, by special arrangement, terms may be agreed upon. All inquiries should be sent to the Students' Reference Bureau, Chicago Woman's Club, 203 Michigan avenue, Chicago.

The Club Woman is only \$1.00 a year.

WOMAN AND MUSIC.

Conducted by S. C. Very.

ENLARGING the chronicles of club activity, or more specifically, woman's activity, to include music, we find this special field not untilled, but rich in harvest. Confining statistics to America alone, there is recorded a Rossini Club of Portland, Maine, thirty-three years old, and many others not much younger in years full of achievement. A club in Grand Rapids, Mich., possesses a home, "The St. Cecilia," the cost of which, \$53,000 with furnishings, evinces a spirit of energy and enterprise over and above aesthetic aims popularly supposed to be all-engrossing to the musician. The Cincinnati Ladies' Club supports the orchestra there, and the Haarlem Philharmonic Society of New York City, comprising two hundred and fifty music lovers, gives annually concerts with an orchestra of sixty men. The popular organizations, Women's String Orchestra Society of New York City and Boston's Women's Symphony Orchestral Society, annually delight crowded halls. In the field of composition is Mrs. Beach, ranking foremost among music writers today. In transcribing and translating is Helen Tretbar, but for whose labor many exquisite lyrics would have been lost. Alice Fletcher is busily engaged in research among the Indians. To the munificence of Mrs. John Crosby Brown, New York's Metropolitan Museum of Fine Arts owes a collection of 2,087 musical instruments, and owing to her incessant and arduous study, its intrinsic value rivals all others of its kind. Among American violinists, Leonora Jackson and Maud Powell have recently obtained international recognition. Our singers, Nordica, Eames, Nevada, lead in opera.

Music clubs are to be found in every hamlet—they, too, have a Federation. And then our friend, the enemy! We, too, can claim the censorious critic. His baleful prophecies of society's disintegration from woman's labor in music place us on a footing with sister clubs whose activity has drawn upon them the flattering notice of these mentors. Woman's attempt to encompass that for which (in his estimation) she is intellectually incapacitated, he pronounces temerity. This verdict has not, however, blighted our efforts at composition. Workers in its ranks annually increase in numbers. In the north we have Kate Vannah of Maine; in the south, Mildred Hill; in the west, Stella Stocker. In other words, criticism has proved an incentive and stimulated to fresh endeavor. No discouragement has daunted the women of the music club, and its future is bright with promise.

As this art's votaries take their places beside those of other aims, the difference between music's *raison d'être* and that of the other arts may not be too frequently nor too emphatically declared.

Music is not a representative art. Nature furnishes no analogy to its fugue and symphony. The bird does not base its song upon the scale of C. No little brook bubbles into a sonata, or even into an arpeggio as it flows along. The justification, therefore, of music's truth or beauty, unlike that of other arts, is not to be found in an appeal to nature; and appreciation of its worth, the understanding of its standard set by highest attainment, can be had only in knowledge of some technicalities. It is futile to discuss binary form from the standpoint of atmospheric lights and shadows; of plastic moulds or models; of daily sights or common experiences.

Moreover, to be aesthetic is not necessarily to be inane; to love melody implies no incapacity to understand logic. Indeed, the art of music is joined so indissolubly to science that the union offers field for a life-time's study.

Although this art was being repudiated as unseemly by our good Puritan forefathers, it had been cultivated for generations in Europe. While Bach was playing chamber-music in a little obscure court, New England clergy were deliberating whether it were in accordance with the teaching of the Bible to sing or read psalms in church. And all the lovely thoughts of the Classics had been reaped and garnered when Barnum introduced Jenny Lind to America.

Very slowly has America brought music forward as a factor in education.

To club women, then, who with curiosity turn toward this latest-born art, and query what it contributes in modern thought, we reiterate that, although its essence baffles analysis, philosophers, aestheticians, even musicians contradict each other with their theories, yet very practical results from study of its devoted adherents are to be had, and their united efforts have crystallized into a system. A slight familiarity with its technical terms quickens apprehension; a recognition of its special standpoint relative to art in life gives a better comprehension of latter day achievements.

Concede, then, on music's day at the club, that music is an art, not a mere accomplishment. It has power instantaneously to take captive men's heart, but a deeper claim still upon the affection of those who have studied it carefully.

And to music clubs there is a field for serious labor simply propagative: to raise higher its standard; to improve the children's study in music, etc.

Let our key-note be harmony, our aim well-modulated tones and sweet voices, yet there remains a mission as practical as that of the most utilitarian of busy women in America.

Two successful books of the season: Miss Godfrey's "Poor Human Nature," Mabel Wagnall's "Stars of the Opera."

Two books worth possessing: Madame Marchesi's "Marchesi and Music." Miss Hannah Smith's "Music: How It Came To Be."

Is there a better name for a club than Philharmonic? That music club which, in appropriating it, lives up to the letter of its meaning in words and acts, proves indeed the strength in union.

In preparation for the next music day at the club much bewilderment would be obviated if you would look up in the Century Dictionary—or better still, in Grove's—the meaning of canonic, symphonic, fugul and contrapuntal.

The young 'cellist, Elsa Ruegger, engaged to play this season in many music clubs, approaches them with curiosity. Abroad she has had no experience of playing for organizations of women, yet to us she brings news of the "new woman" in Berlin, who has startled conservatives by organizing a woman's orchestra, playing therein and even assuming the responsibility of directing it.

The world of music clubs is welcoming enthusiastically the young violinist, Leonora Jackson, who in January returned to her native land, covered with the glory of popular applause and royal favors bestowed on the Continent. She made her American debut at the concert of the New York Philharmonic Society, January 5, 1900.

The list constantly lengthens of women excelling as violinists. Prominent therein are the Americans, Maud Powell and Leonora Jackson; (by adoption) English, Lady Halle; German, Frau Scharwenka; French, Camilla Urso.

Most probable it is that at the close of the twentieth century America will cease importing directors of her orchestras. At present the two women's clubs supporting full orchestras have as leaders American born. Mr. Van der Stucken is at the head of Cincinnati's orchestra; Mr. Fleck leads that of the

Haarlem Philharmonic Society in New York City. Yet Rubenstein declares that women are wanting in the initiative!

The metropolis boasts one woman's club supporting an orchestra of sixty men, one of thirty-eight professional performers upon stringed instruments (violin, viola, 'cello, bass and harp), the third an association of seventy-six singers, named The Rubenstein Club, now in its thirteenth season.

Each organization has given a public performance this season at the Waldorf-Astoria. Crowded halls with a brilliant assembly attest the popularity of each, and the high standards with excellent renderings prove the energy of music-loving women.

The Haarlem Philharmonic Society gives two concerts annually, besides rehearsals, morning musicales and social reunions. Its program at the first concert of the season was as follows:

Tschaikowsky—Symphony in D minor.

Tschaikowsky—Aria, "Jeanne d'Arc."

Miss Sara Anderson.

Chopin—Concerto in F minor.

Richard Burmeister.

Haydn—My Mother Bids Me Bind My Hair.

Schubert—Im Mai.

Miss Sara Anderson.

Goldmark—Overture—Im Fuhling.

The Women's String Orchestra Society played the following program:

Handel—Concerto Grosso.

Giordani de Lara, J. B. Faure, Tschaikowsky—Songs by Mr. de Gorgoza.

Rheinberger—Variations.

Blasser—Aufblick zu der Sterner.

Leoncavallo—Prologue.

Hartman—Berceuse.

Sokolow—Glazounow—Liadon—Vendredis.

Bach—Bourree.

"The tone is free and substantial," said the critic, "and of good quality."

Not till 1900 did the Rubenstein give its first concert of the season, an event always anticipated with pleasure by its friends.

PROGRAM.

Czibulka—Morn Rise.

Beethoven—Adelaide.

Mr. Giles.

Old Melody.

Pizzi—Dolce Amor.

Rees—The Nightingale.

Mendelssohn, Chopin—Selections played by Rich. Burmeister.

R. Lane Wilson—Carmena.

R. Becker—Song of the Winds.

Brownell, Denza—Songs by Mr. Giles.

F. Hiller—Evening in the Vale.

Liszt—Rhapsodie Hongroise No. 8.

Mr. Burmeister.

Wm. Rees—"Oh Tell It Her."

Certainly I want to renew my subscription. I find The Club Woman invaluable, and only wish I had the time to talk it up more and make every club woman take it; as far as I can I do this. I never want to miss a number; cannot afford to do so.—Mary L. Sherman, Vice-President Cantabrigia Club.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.

Viola Price Franklin.

THE DUTY OF COLLEGE WOMEN TO UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION came into existence to meet the needs of women deprived of the advantages of University life. This great movement originated in the philanthropic desire of a few large-minded Englishmen to provide a way for extending the beneficent influence of university education to many denied such privileges. The classes especially designated were "those deprived from obtaining it by their occupations as laborers, or their sex as women." The latter is better understood in England than in America, since women in America had enjoyed greater privileges in universities than were granted to women in conservative Oxford and Cambridge. Nobly has this movement striven to accomplish the purpose of its inception, "to decrease ignorance and re-establish justice."

It is a well-known fact how eagerly the educated women of England took hold of the work and lent all their influence to the establishment of lecture courses. The immediate success of University Extension in England was largely due to the efficient co-operation of these college bred women with the officers of University Extension. Their zeal was felt in almost every phase of the work—it mattered not whether as organizers of lecture courses or as active members of local committees, or as solicitors for funds to establish new courses—in one and in all these departments many generous women rendered invaluable assistance. Much testimony to the following fact has been given—that to their sensible participation in the work as organized in the manufacturing districts its wonderful success was due. It may have required some courage for these cultured women to take their places in the classes, side by side with the brawny workmen, thus to encourage them by sympathetic interest; but they flinched not and were rewarded in manifold ways.

The college-bred women of America may learn a lesson from their English sisters, and if they will only listen to the appeals of University Extension they will find a sphere for the exercise of all their powers. A student of the subject thus clearly states the case: "For the women of America, like their English sisters, live mostly in the home. And however the exigencies of modern civilization or the development of their powers may open to them new occupations, higher education will be in the future, as it has been in the past, the rule for the men and the exception for the women; unless, indeed, by this organization of an itinerant method of university teaching, higher education can be brought to the home, or within its immediate possibility. For, while our modern colleges for women mark an era of improvement and progress unparalleled in the story of human progress, two distinct factors are still at work, keeping all but a favored few of our girls from the privileges of college life." It is to these brave girls, kept from college halls, that university graduates owe a duty in opening up before them avenues whereby the pleasant ways of learning may be enjoyed. To these minds, eager for study, and longing for a taste of university work, university extension comes as a great boon. The irksome routine of everyday duties is brightened by the inspiration of a new life. The movement is broad enough to meet the requirements of every taste. Indeed it "bids fair to introduce a genuine democracy among women, in which only good sense, industry and intellect will be conspicuous."

But how does this movement appeal to the university graduate? The transition from a delightful intellectual environment to that of her home town, where her girl friends think only of dress and parties, and whose conversation is idle chit-chat, may prove the undoing or the making of this college woman. Two courses are open to her. As the Indian student returning from Carlisle to his half savage companions may find their influence so great as to compel him to doff his citizen's attire and don again the emblem of the savage state—the red blanket—thus ungratefully rewarding the government that has so kindly endeavored to uplift him; so may the college girl, casting aside all her cherished ideals of college days, and forgetting the parting appeals of beloved teachers, yield to the depressing environment and become "just as one of the other girls." Over her intellectual grave should be inscribed, "Weighed in the balance, and found wanting."

The other course open to this young woman, fresh from the inspiration of university halls, is one that will ennoble and uplift. The lack of intellectual ozone in her home atmosphere, instead of overpowering her, will arouse her to action, and taking for her motto Wellesley's beautiful sentiment, "Not to be ministered unto but to minister," she will go forth bearing precious seed. Loyalty to her alma mater will encourage her to persuade her friends to unite with her in organizing an university extension course in their town. In this manner she will become an important factor in elevating the intellectual tone of the place, and in this work she will find full scope for all her awakened powers. Every faculty can find full employment in the varied activities growing out of these extension classes. Her training in philosophy should enable her the better to solve the problems of life and harmonize homely tasks with dignified culture. Her study of art and literature should enable her to choose wisely lecture courses best fitted for the attainments of her friends, and when necessary, to guide the class in its study of the same. Her knowledge of political science will give her a generous impulse to contribute all in her power toward educating the people in those principles which will insure wise rule in municipal and in national affairs. Her research in sociology has doubtless aroused in her a keen interest in "Civic Improvement Societies," and she will become an active participator in such benevolent activities. How full has her life now become! Inestimable is her influence in transforming apathy into aspiration, triviality into earnestness, love for fashion into love for learning!

If every college woman would only consider herself loyally bound to uphold university ideals in her city, and to manifest her interest and her appreciation of what her alma mater has done for her, by bringing its beneficent influence to the women's clubs in her immediate vicinity, university extension would be enthusiastically welcomed and strongly supported.

May we not, then, call upon these women throughout the length and breadth of our land to bend their energies toward the upbuilding of such a beneficent movement, and thus fulfill to the utmost the trust reposed in them by their alma mater?

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION ITEMS.

Favored above all other study clubs are those of Kansas now, since the new Travelling Library Commission has arranged to furnish reference libraries of fifty books for any club desiring to use the same. The chief objection to taking university extension courses has been the inadequacy of library facilities. This excellent provision removes this objection, and the progressive Kansas clubs have no excuse now for not availing themselves freely of the excellent courses offered by the State University of Kansas. These books are selected with reference to the special topic to be studied by the club, and the collection remains intact for the use of other clubs pursuing a similar course in the future. Surely no better provision for carrying on

University Extension courses could be desired, and a great impetus ought to be given to the extension of such courses throughout the state. The women's clubs of Kansas are also fortunate in having Mrs. James Humphrey as president of the State Federation, since her appreciation of the value of university work is well known.

During the recent meeting of the Seventh District Federation in Wellington, Kansas, the Carrie Prentis Club gave a beautiful reception to their "patron saint," Mrs. Carrie Prentis of Kansas City. In an address given before the club on this occasion, Mrs. Prentis spoke very highly of the character of the work being done by the club. It has been pursuing university extension courses planned by this department ever since the club was organized. Mrs. Prentis advised the members to undertake some philanthropic work in addition to their study class. Acting upon this suggestion the club has interested itself in collecting a library for the new club house which the Wellington Clubs are now building. Recently a "Book Reception" was given for this purpose. The club has completed two dramas, *King Lear*, and *As You Like It*, and is now at work upon *Henry the Eighth*.

A recent bulletin issued by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin gave as its "raison d'être": "This society has recently received from women's clubs throughout the state so many urgent applications for suggestions relative to the study of Wisconsin history, that it has been deemed advisable to prepare this Bulletin." The bulletin is entitled, "Suggestions for the Study of Wisconsin History," and will serve as an excellent syllabus for clubs desiring to pursue a course in Wisconsin history. This is a most praiseworthy departure for women's clubs, thus to suggest and be the means of providing a plan for carrying on such a profitable study of their own state. The pamphlet bears the mark of the scholarly work of Mr. Reuben G. Thwaites, the secretary of the Historical Society, who has done so much for the advancement of historical research by his profound histories.

This department is very desirous of ascertaining the exact status of university extension in each state, and makes this request of the State Editors of *The Club Woman*: Will they not furnish her the facts as to the extent of university extension work in their respective states? It is desired to obtain the exact number of such courses taken in the past and also the number now being taken. The attitude of club women toward the movement is also desired, and any suggestions as to the best way of pushing these courses in the state work. Please forward the information to 915 University Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin.

CLUB STUDY.

Conducted by May Alden Ward.

THE NINETEENTH CENTURY IN EUROPE.

I. OPENING OF THE CENTURY.

1. Influence of the French Revolution.
2. Napoleon's Career of Conquest.
3. The Congress of Vienna. Efforts to Reconstruct the Map of Europe.

II. REACTION AGAINST LIBERALISM.

1. Restoration of the Bourbons in France, Spain and Naples.
2. Revolution of 1820 and '21 in Spain and Italy. Origin of the Carbonari.
3. Policy of Louis XVIII. and Charles X. "Divine Right" of Kings Revived.
4. George IV. in England.

III. REVOLUTION OF 1830.

1. Louis Phillippe, King by Election and not by Divine Right. Constitutional Monarchy.
2. Attempts at Revolution in Italy and Elsewhere.
3. The Reform Bill in England. Chartism.

IV. REVOLUTION OF 1848.

1. Lamartine and the Second Republic. National Workshops. Commune. Louis Napoleon Elected President.
2. Germany in 1848. The Idea of Unity. Rivalry Between Prussia and Austria.
3. Hungary in 1848. Kossuth.

V. ITALY IN 1848.

1. Italy Under Austrian Oppression.
2. Charles Albert's Struggle for Independence.
3. Mazzini and Garibaldi.

VI. THE SECOND EMPIRE.

1. Career of "Napoleon the Little." The Coup d'Etat.
2. The Emperor Helps Italy. His Bargain with Cavour.
3. Corruption in French Politics.

VII. PROGRESS IN ENGLAND.

1. The Franchise Extended. Cities Given Representation. Slavery Abolished in Colonies.
2. Accession of Queen Victoria. Her Early Ministers.
3. Origin of Liberal and Conservative Parties.

VIII. RUSSIA.

1. Reign of Nicholas. Crimean War.
2. Alexander II. Emancipation of the Serfs.
3. Nihilism.
4. Character of the Civilization of Russia.

IX. GERMAN UNITY.

1. Growth of Idea of Nationality. Attempts to Unite German States.
2. Development of Prussia. Her War with Austria. Alliance with Italy.
3. Otto von Bismarck.

X. REFORMS IN AUSTRIA.

1. Austria Driven Out of German Confederation.
2. The Austro-Hungarian Nation. A Dual Kingdom.
3. Buda-Pesth and the Hungarians, the Yankees of Europe.

XI. SPAIN IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

1. Queen Christina and Queen Isabella.
2. The Revolution of 1868.
3. Choosing a King. Amadeus.
4. Spain a Republic.
5. Restoration of the Bourbons.

XII. LATER VICTORIAN ERA.

1. Disraeli. His Career in Parliament. His Policy.
2. The Expansion of the Empire.
3. Gladstone. Leader of Liberals. Important Measures. Disestablishment of Church in Ireland. Secret Ballot. Public Schools Established.
4. The Irish Question.

XIII. RESULTS OF THE FRANCO-PRUSSIAN WAR.

1. Formation of the German Empire.
2. The Third Republic Founded.
3. Kingdom of Italy Completed.

XIV. THE LIBERATION OF ITALY.

1. Victor Emanuel and Cavour.
2. Italy Among the Nations.
3. Relations Between the Vatican and the Quirinal.

XV. THE SICK MAN OF EUROPE.

1. The Turkish Government. Its Character.
2. Revolts from Turkish Rule. (Roumania, Bulgaria,

Servia, &c.)

3. The Eastern Question.

XVI. THE MINOR POWERS.

1. Switzerland. A Federal Republic. Constitution. The Referendum.
2. The Netherlands. Separation of Holland and Belgium. Compare the two Kingdoms.
3. Scandinavia. Relations Between Norway and Sweden.

XVII. QUESTIONS OF TODAY.

1. The Triple Alliance.
2. The Standing Armies of Europe.
3. The Growth of Socialism.

XVIII. RESULTS OF THE MOVEMENTS OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

1. Development of Democracy. Representation of the People in the Government.
2. Organized Labor.
3. Growth of Spirit of Nationality.

BOOKS:

A MOST excellent and necessary book for literature classes in clubs is "Some Principles of Literary Criticism," by C. T. Winchester, professor of English Literature in Wesleyan University. The author occupies with his book a field almost entirely his own, for what treatises of this nature there are in print are limited in scope and ineffective in power and treatment. The book grew up in the classroom and is consequently somewhat elementary in form and matter, at the same time it is adapted to students of mature years and wide reading. The headings of the chapters of the book will serve to give some conception of the contents of the work: What is Literature? The Emotional Element in Literature; The Imagination; The Intellectual Element in Literature; The Formal Element in Literature; Poetry; Prose; Fiction, etc. Prof. Winchester is a careful writer and a more careful thinker. He has decided opinions on style and literary expression and he gives his criticisms with candor and fine regard for truth. It is one of the best of study books and all club women will find it a satisfactory and suggestive text book. (New York: Macmillan Company.)

"The Future of the American Negro," by Booker T. Washington, is a notable contribution to the literature of the day. Booker Washington is doing for his race what no other colored man has ever done for it, and he is doing it along lines that find fullest commendation from all classes of men, irrespective of race, creed or political affiliation. He has made a profound study of his race, he knows the black man's defects and his merits; he is not blind to the depressing conditions under which the negro is existing, and he knows the remedy which will raise him to the level that shall entitle him to respect and power and make him a useful, honorable and desirable citizen, whether he has his residence in the North, the South, or the West. Mr. Washington's book is a careful consideration of the problems that confront the white man as well as the black man in bringing about the needed change in the latter's condition. He takes up the conditions in the problem and discusses them one by one and it is a straightforward, frank, manly discussion. It appeals to the right understanding of every believer in fair play and equal justice for all men. It is a book for all honest-minded men to read; it is entirely free from cant and whining and reproaches. It contains no rancorous thought against the white man for his treatment of the black; it asks for a fair field and no favors. (Boston: Small, Maynard & Co.)

The Netherland railway companies employ women to signal trains on the ground that they are less apt to get drunk than men. "Of 727 apothecaries in Holland, 313 are women. As oyster dredgers, brickmakers, turf diggers, as well as embroiderers, engravers, housemaids, or authors and artists, the Dutch women do well." This from Dr. William Elliot Griffis in his book, "The American in Holland," just put forth. It gives a comprehensive and graphic picture of the Dutch as Dr. Griffis found them during many trips to Holland; he tells the story with fine power and grace, for he has a warm regard for the inhabitants of that flat land by the sea. In a delightful sort of way Dr. Griffis in his book tells the history of Holland while he is setting forth the features of the country and describing the manners and customs of the people. The personal element is prominent but never intrusive while the record is making up, it being rather a chatty and storylike history of the Dutch and their country. For the general reader and for clubs in their study of history Dr. Griffis' book will be of secure worth and permanent interest. (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)

"What a Young Girl Ought to Know" is the title of a book that should be in the hands of every mother in the land. Frances Willard said of it: "I do earnestly hope that this book, founded on a strictly scientific but not forgetting a strong ethical basis, may be well known and widely read by the dear girls in their teens and the young women in their homes." It is written by Dr. Mary Wood-Allen and Sylvanus Stall, D. D., and is meant to answer truthfully and sensibly the honest inquiries of young girls concerning the origin of life and being. We all know that there is crying need of a wiser understanding of the mysteries of sex on the part of young people. A vast deal of misery might have been saved this world had our fathers and mothers realized how much better it is for young people to understand themselves in the right way; and today it has come to be the fashion to teach children the things they ought to know, in the best way and before they find out for themselves by questionable methods.

"What a Young Boy Should Know" is along the same line with the above, and should be owed by every one who is responsible for a boy's future. It is by Dr. Stall and teaches by familiar talks the sacredness of the human body, the fatherhood of God and our responsibility as guardians of the frame which holds an immortal soul. The writer has successfully kept the middle course between coarseness and prudishness, and has elaborated delicate facts with singularly pure intent and faithfulness. The chapters are short and treat of physiological truths in a way that is interesting without awakening a purient thought; on the contrary they are presented in such a way as to lift the mind to a higher plane and make an indelible impression of the sacredness of the human body as God's temple. Both books are invaluable in the teaching of young people and should be placed in the libraries, where young and eager minds may have access to them. They are for sale at \$1.00 a copy by F. H. Palmer, 50 Bromfield street, Boston.

Better than Two Years Before the Mast is Mr. Frank T. Bullen's "The Log of a Sea-Waif"; it is instinct with life, free from the stiltedness of a pedantic stylist, and vigorous with the masterfulness of one born for the sea and living his life on it. Every page is warm with the author's personality; it has the pulsing atmosphere of candor and honesty; we are compelled to believe the tales the author tells, he makes them true to us. And a true story by a real man who knows that truth is more enticing than fiction, after the manner of Clark Russell, is the most pleasing and delicious of morsels to all men, be they young or old, land lubbers or Jack Tars. Mr. Bullen's tale is that of

the first four years of his life at sea, and it is crammed full of incident and adventure, and jolly good reading it makes. It will charm every boy and make him forswear forever all designs for running away and going to sea. It is a book of sea books and is in a class by itself. (D. Appleton & Co.)

The Beacon Biographies furnish a series of handbooks, or rather handybooks, that are at once serviceable, brief, readable, authentic, and unique. The editor, Mr. M. A. DeWolfe, is an accomplished student of lives of great Americans, and his critical acumen and catholicity of taste make him eminently fitted for his task. We have two volumes of this series, "John Brown," by Joseph Edgar Chamberlin, and "Nathaniel Hawthorne," by Annie Fields. The life of Brown is told simply and with no desire to raise rancorous feelings and "take sides." It is a story of a strong life that with many vicissitudes climaxed in the greatest of tragedies. The author says, "the story of Brown is so strongly simple, so utterly governed by an ideal, so glowing and tragical, that anyone who follows it closely is likely to find himself kindling before he is aware of it." The story of Hawthorne is told by one who knew him well and loved him. Mrs. Fields' husband, James T. Fields, of Fields & Osgood, secured the MS. of "The Scarlet Letter" and gave it publication. It was Hawthorne's first successful book, five thousand being sold in the first ten days. All lovers of Hawthorne will find this little book a necessary adjunct to their appreciation of the great writer. (Boston: Small, Maynard & Co.)

"A Guide to the Opera," by Esther Singleton, is distinctly a unique work inasmuch as it gives a detailed description and interpretation of the words and music of the most celebrated operas. It is not a work that can be cried out on the streets and in the Music Hall by itinerant or unauthorized vendors who shout, "Book of the opera!" It contains something more than the argument of the operas; everything on the stage is described in order, every scene is portrayed, the setting of each act faithfully depicted, and the movement of the plot succinctly told. While describing everything on the stage, the author has included the most striking orchestral effects, noting in many cases the particular instruments by which the effects are produced. In addition to the words and music, the stage directions and everything necessary to a complete comprehension of the scene at any moment are set forth. Twenty-nine operas, the most famous ones are considered, and the study of them is so scholarly and comprehensive and thorough that every devotee of the opera must perforce make this book a *vade mecum* when the "season" is on. (New York: Dodd, Mead & Co.)

"To London Town," by Arthur Morrison, is a painful story of a miserable life and hardships and poverty and suffering, but told with all the art that characterize the stories of life in London by the author. It is more a study of mean life than a novel of lowly existence, and the characters are such as one would not care to ever meet in actual life and would preferably escape from in tales and dramas. The story is to be read in connection with Mr. Morrison's other studies of life in the eastern part of London, *Tales of Mean Streets* and *A Child of the Jago*. (Chicago: Herbert S. Stone & Co.)

The latest addition to Appleton's Home Reading Books is "The Family of the Sun," by Edward S. Holden, and is a continuation of the author's earlier volume in this series, "Earth and Sky," which relates chiefly to the earth, the moon, and the space which includes the universe. The present volume deals with the planets, which form the Family of the Sun; all the planets are described in turn, and their resemblances and differ-

ences are brought out. The child that has this book for home or school reading will find the heavens to be an endless source of study and delight. (New York: D. Appleton & Co.)

With all its pathetic tenderness there is a force that means much for the good of man and beast in the exquisite story of "Loveliness," by Elizabeth Stuart Phelps. It is the story of a dog and a girl; it is simply told and there are none of the meretricious tricks employed by the short story teller to enhance the effect of a tale with little incident or action. The dog is stolen and the little girl goes into a decline. The child's father, who is a professor in a medical college, finally finds the dog in the hands of a class for vivisection and comes in just the moment of time to rescue Loveliness. It is a tale to make heart strings tighten, and eyes moisten, and hands to clench, and the mind to will to wage war against vivisection. (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)

"Rosamund," by Algernon Charles Swinburne, is the tragedy of sombre color and grewsome sort. There are but five characters—a vengeful queen, a lovesick king, two indifferent lovers, dupes of the queen, and one old dotard counsellor of the king. The scene is laid in Verona and the time is June of the year 573. The tale is inconsequent, the setting undramatic, and the harmonies ill preserved; but the telling of the tale is with all the force that has marked the verse of Swinburne. The stately blank verse moves with graceful cadence and with assertive power. The imagery, the thrilling turn of word and phrase, the happy searching thought, the exquisite rhythm, all are present to render any work of Swinburne a grateful addition to poetic literature. (New York: Dodd, Mead & Co.)

"Day Dreams" is the title of a beautifully bound, daintily illustrated volume of verses by the "Ohio poetess," Ida Eckert Lawrence, who is well known to club women of the middle West. The poems are embodied in beautiful language conveying soul-stirring thoughts that lift the reader out of herself and carries one back to the scenes and surroundings of other days. They deal with things of the present in the same realistic way, while still others are vividly imaginative and clothed in a wealth of language seldom surpassed. It is said that the demand for "Day Dreams" has been so great that half of the edition was exhausted before the volume was fairly on the market. Mrs. Louise Chandler Moulton says: "I am not surprised at the success of the book because of its strong appeal to human hearts. It voices the love and the hope and the sorrow that is universal." The book is published by the Robert Clarke Company of Cincinnati.

The village Improvement Society of Greenfield Hill, Conn., has just issued "A Book for the Cook," full of "old-fashioned recipes for the new-fashioned kitchen." Many of these formulas have been jealously guarded and secretly preserved in private families who were famous for them, and they have been obtained only through the courtesy of individuals, now to be given to the public for the first time. Doubtless this book will prove a valuable assistant in every kitchen, while the old-time associations that it will revive will appeal to all good housewives. It will also commend itself to those interested in the instruction of children in hygienic cooking that calls for trained skill and scientific knowledge. There are recipes for all sorts of good things to eat and drink, with no levity until the last page is reached, when two formulas are attached that are well worth repeating. These are:

1st. How to Cook Husbands! A good many husbands are entirely spoiled by mismanagement in cooking, and so are not tender and good. Some women keep them too constantly in hot

water; others freeze them; others put them in a stew; others roast them; and others keep them constantly in a pickle. It cannot be supposed that any husband will be good and tender managed in this way, but they are really delicious when properly treated. In selecting your husband you should not be guided by the silvery appearance as in buying mackerel, nor by the golden tint, as if you wanted salmon. Be sure and select him yourself, as tastes differ. Do not go to the market for him, as those brought to the door are always best. It is far better to have none, than not to learn how to cook them properly. It does not make so much difference what you cook him in as how you cook him. See that the linen in which he is wrapped is white and nicely mended, with the required number of strings and buttons. Don't keep him in the kettle by force, as he will stay there himself if proper care is taken. If he splutter or fizz, do not be anxious; some husbands do this. Add a little sugar in the form of what confectioners call "kisses," but no vinegar or pepper on any account. A little spice improves them, but it must be used with judgment. Do not try him with anything sharp, to see if he is becoming tender. Stir him gently the while, lest he stay too long in the kettle and become flat and tasteless. If thus treated you will find him very digestible, agreeing nicely with you, and he will keep as long as you want.

2nd. Home Comfort (an old-fashioned recipe). Take of thoughts for self, 1 part; 2 parts of thoughts for family; equal parts of common sense and broad intelligence; a large modicum of the sense of fitness of things; a heaping measure of living above what your neighbors think of you; twice the quantity of keeping within your income; a sprinkling of what tends to refinement and aesthetic beauty; stirred thick with Christian principles of the true brand, set it to rise.

"Cheerful Philosophy for Invalids" is a book that should be in the hands of every "shut-in," not to say in every household, as a possible comfort in time of trouble. It is written by William Horatio Clarke, who has been an invalid himself for many years, and who has learned the true secret of life and how to be happy, though shut in. The book is full of hopefulness, courage and a cheerful philosophy that may be practical religion or sanctified common sense as you please. It cannot fail of bringing help and comfort to every invalid whom it reaches, and we advise those who number invalid and shut-ins among their acquaintances to send for the little book. It is bound in limp covers, and is therefore, light and easy to handle. It costs only 50 cents and may be had of E. T. Clarke & Co., Reading, Mass.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

- THE McMILLAN COMPANY, NEW YORK.
Soldier Rigdale. By Beulah M. Dix. Cloth; \$1.50.
Via Crucis. By F. Marion Crawford. Cloth; \$1.50.
DOUBLEDAY, McCLURE & CO., NEW YORK.
How to study Shakespeare. By William H. Fleming. Cloth, 2 vols.; \$1.00 each.
CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS, NEW YORK.
For the Freedom of the Sea. By Cyrus T. Brady. Cloth; \$1.50.
LITTLE, BROWN & CO., BOSTON.
Voices: Poems. By Katherine Cooledge. Cloth; \$1.25.
JOHN R. WILEY & SONS, NEW YORK.
The Cost of Living. By Mrs. Ellen H. Richards, instructor in Sanitary Science in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Cloth; \$1.00.
HARPER BROTHERS, NEW YORK.
The Colossus. By Morley Roberts. Cloth; \$1.25.
Red Pottage. By Mary Cholmondeley. Cloth; \$1.50.

General Federation of Women's Clubs.

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 Vice-President,
MRS. SARAH S. PLATT,
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Recording Secretary,
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Treasurer,
MRS. PHILIP N. MOORE,
 1520 Mississippi Avenue, St. Louis, Mo.
 Auditor,
MRS. C. P. BARNES,
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GENERAL FEDERATION NEWS.

NOTICE.



In answer to numerous inquiries I would say the Committee on Reorganization will meet February 15th, and any suggestions or communications received up to that date will be placed before the committee, but should be sent as soon as possible that they may be properly tabulated.

If the committee can ascertain the wishes of the clubs and Federations on the questions submitted to them, it may save them the trouble and expense of another meeting. It is not necessary for clubs to draw up a plan.

D. N. C. Brock,

Chairman Reorganization Committee, Lebanon, Pa.

EXPLANATION.

AS Chairman of the Reorganization Committee I have, of course, taken no part in the discussions on this subject. In pursuance of my duty as state president, however, I issued circulars, which were printed in *The Club Woman*, to the clubs of our state, in order that this subject might be understood and intelligently discussed at our annual meeting.

These circulars were very carefully signed as president, but as some persons have evidently overlooked this, it seems necessary to make this personal explanation. This letter is signed by no title, especially as I am quoted as endorsing the Massachusetts plan of reorganization, and because of this supposed endorsement a number of clubs have also endorsed it, I am informed.

"The Massachusetts Federation has formulated a well arranged and carefully considered plan" are the words in the circular, and whoever outlines the first plan in any scheme gives a basis for discussion and deserves the gratitude of those interested of all shades of opinion. The Massachusetts committee intended their plan to serve this purpose only, and I expected to see as the discussion progressed many ways in which it could be improved. I have personally endorsed no plan, and the Pennsylvania Federation differed from the Massachusetts plan in four particulars:

1st. It would make the General Federation consist of State Federations only, and would not admit kindred organizations to membership.

2nd. The per capita representation with a limit it proposed was not to limit the total number of delegates to one thousand, but to limit the representation from each state on the plan of representation of clubs in the Pennsylvania State Federation.

3rd. It would make the per capita dues five cents.

4th. It would continue the rule which has always existed in the G. F. W. C. of allowing states to choose their delegates as they please. In this I am not sure that it differs from the Massachusetts plan, for it is not clear that it intended the plan

proposed for the selecting of delegates to be anything more than a suggestion for their own State Federation.

The section of the Massachusetts plan which says, "Any club that shall fail to pay both taxes (State and General) at the required time shall lose its membership in both State and General Federation" was not discussed at the Pennsylvania meeting. It is doubtful if it would have passed, as the feeling against having the General in any way interfere with the State was very strong. That a state's representation in the G. F. W. C. should be based on the number of members paying the per capita dues by a certain date would, I think, have been its decision, but quite as logical, perhaps, as the Massachusetts proposition. So if a state had five thousand members and one thousand failed to pay, it would have delegates only for a membership of four thousand. No woman, however, would deprive her state of its proper representation by refusing to pay five cents. Such a clause as Massachusetts proposes might go in any State constitution, but hardly in that of the G. F. W. C. Doubtless Massachusetts only intended it as a state rule. While, therefore, it is true that at Denver, at Philadelphia and at our State Federation I did not hesitate to express my views on the subject of reorganization, and that as I offered the resolutions providing for a committee to draw up a plan of reorganization my views are well known, I must protest against the assertion that I have given my personal endorsement to any plan as yet.

Even my state furnished no plan. It simply answered the questions as to reorganization, representation and taxation requested in the circular issued by the Reorganization Committee.

As the discussion progresses it is evident that after all we all want about the same thing, and that the real difficulty in the way of reorganization lies in the fact that it is not understood and is not looked at from the right standpoint.

As Mrs. Blount says, we all believe "that some method can be devised of reducing the representation to a reasonable limit without destroying the enthusiasm and benefits individual clubs feel they gain by direct representation in the General Federation." "The Biennial is simply a love feast, where all meet for social and intellectual refreshment," and "no one proposes to limit the number of club women who attend the Biennials." All that anyone has proposed has been to make the business body smaller, the organization more homogeneous, and, as some one said, "the saving in clerical work alone would make reorganization desirable."

When, therefore, one hears of doing away with club representation, of losing the inspiration and enthusiasm of large Biennial meetings, of forcing clubs to join the G. F. W. C., of forcing clubs out of it, of the injustice of having the state president alone represent the state at Biennials, of the great power state boards would have in electing all the delegates to Biennials, that every club will no longer send delegates to their State Federation meetings, of clubs and Federations paying hundreds of dollars to the support of the General Federation, and so on, one knows the question is not understood, as not one of these things are proposed in reorganization.

With state representation, the great Biennial "Love Feasts"

would continue, and all club women who would come could take part in them and receive inspiration and benefit as of yore. But in reducing the business and voting body, distant states and clubs would enjoy the same advantages as those in the vicinity of the Biennial meeting place.

All clubs belonging to their State Federations are members of the G. F. W. C. They pay their dues and send delegates to the Biennials through their State Federations, and their members are entitled to serve on boards and committees of the G. F. W. C. They are, therefore, not forced to join the G. F. W. C. They are already members, but although much larger in numbers than the clubs holding direct representation, a much smaller number of delegates are allowed them. No clubs would be forced out of the G. F. W. C., for as long as they retain their membership in their State Federations they will retain it in the G. F. W. C. They probably could not all send delegates to all Biennials, but they do not do so now.

The G. F. W. C. has never said how states should elect their delegates to the Biennials or interfered in their affairs in any way. Clubs would continue to send to their state meetings their full representation, and would manage their state affairs as they do now. Some states, Pennsylvania for example, would give up club dues for the state and have per capita dues, while other states would keep their state dues as they are.

Under per capita dues for the General Federation, no club or Federation would pay hundreds of dollars. The individual club member would pay them, and thus large clubs would pay no more than small ones. Each member would pay alike. Only as a matter of convenience would members pay their dues to their club treasurer.

The D. A. R. Convention furnishes a good example of the evils of poor organization. It is a great body grown from a smaller one, with the organization of the small one continued, and its clear-headed women have been working for a better organization for some years. Yet it is more logical than ours, for it does not recognize state organizations in its representation, and thus does not duplicate work.

A prominent woman, arguing against suffrage, said that while women where their affections and interests are concerned are more unselfish than men, they are, on the whole, not as disinterested. Much smaller and more suspicious in their views of things, they bring personal feelings into business questions. I hotly disagreed in regard to their lack of disinterestedness, but when one hears women talk for hours about paying five cents a year to the support of an organization they say they value; when they argue as to the benefits their club will get from the proposed plan; when they are not satisfied with taking part in the discussions of a great meeting and receiving its inspiration and benefits unless they can have the glory of being a delegate, one is inclined to agree with her.

Yet I feel sure that if any one were to go among these women and ask each one for five cents for any good cause she would get it without a question. It is when these five cents are piled up in the treasurer's box that they begin to think what great things their club could do with this money. No one, as far as I know, is trying to push reorganization. All anyone urges is to have it understood what we all need is first to be interested enough to take the trouble to understand it, to read the articles carefully and discuss them with our friends, men and women, that we may vote intelligently at our clubs; and second, to take the large, disinterested view; to look beyond the interests of our clubs and committees to the interests of the state and the nation, and to realize our duty and responsibility to these.

How can this great organization do the most good, and what can I do to assist it? each club member should ask her-

self. If the matter is decided from this standpoint, no matter what the decision, all will be well.

D. N. C. Brock.

IN MRS. BROCK'S OWN TOWN.

The Woman's Club of Lebanon, Penna., believing from what they have read on the subject of the reorganization of the G. F. W. C. in *The Club Woman* that the objections to reorganization are almost entirely due to a misunderstanding of it, and thinking the reason for the action of their club might be helpful to others, voted to send the report of said action to *The Club Woman* for publication.

Lebanon, Pa., January 13th, 1900.

Resolved, That the Women's Club of Lebanon, Penna., heartily endorses the action of the State Federation of Penna. women in regard to the reorganization of the G. F. W. C., for the following reasons:

1st. We believe the G. F. W. C. will be a better and more useful organization if composed solely of State Federations.

2nd. We think it illogical and unjust to State Federations to allow national societies, composed of clubs and state organizations, such as the National Society of New England Women, the Society of D. A. R., the Women's National Suffrage Association and many others, to join the G. F. W. C. as national societies.

3rd. *We think the Pennsylvania plan of per capita representation, with a limit for each state, a better plan than that proposed by Massachusetts, which is more complicated and would require a reassignment of delegates before each Biennial.

Moreover, with a limited and reasonable number of delegates allowed each state, the advantage which clubs and states in the vicinity of the city where the Biennial meetings are held now enjoy would be done away with. Every state could then find enough women able and willing to attend the meetings, or clubs willing to pay their expenses for the honor of having one of their members a state delegate, and thus send all the delegates it was entitled to.

4th. We believe it would be most unwise for the G. F. W. C. to lay down rules for the election of state delegates. At present the rules are different in the different states. Some direct that they shall be chosen from the congressional districts, some that they shall come from the three sections of the state, some that no two shall come from the same club, while others simply direct that they shall be nominated and elected at the annual meetings of the State Federation. Instead of spending hours at Milwaukee trying to reconcile these differences, which arise largely from difference in conditions in the different states, and at last effecting a compromise satisfactory to none, to be fought over at future meetings, we think it better to leave this matter as it is and always has been. That is, that the G. F. W. C. simply assign each state its number of delegates. The Massachusetts plan for their election could be adopted by the Massachusetts Federation, but other states might prefer other plans, as they do now.

5th. We believe the only way our Federation can be properly supported is by individual dues, doing away with direct club representation we do away with club dues, and the representation and dues are no longer per club, but per capita.

6th. We think now that State Federations have grown so strong and numerous, triennial meetings, beginning 1902, would be better than biennial. The expenses to the G. F. W. C., to the State Federations, to clubs and to members who like to attend the meetings would be greatly reduced, whereby there would be a great saving of labor and the meetings would be better.

7th. We think that where imperfect railroad facilities makes communication between the different sections of the state difficult, and State Federations impossible, states should be considered as territories and governed by the Board of Directors of the G. F. W. C. through a Federation Chairman appointed by them. These territories, or State Club Associations, should be entitled to the same per capita representation as State Federations, to be selected in each state as the Board of Directors of the G. F. W. C. shall direct after consultation with the Federation State Chairman.

8th. We fear if this reorganization is not soon effected, the G. F. W. C. will deteriorate. Already many important clubs have dropped out and others are going. The State Federations with so small a representation cannot keep up the interest of all these in the G. F. W. C. The small clubs, who rarely send delegates to the meetings, but like the name of belonging, will remain; it does not cost them much. Other clubs who do send delegates will remain too for awhile, but when they find the women they want to meet no longer attend the meetings, many of them will fall away. Still, so far as numbers go, there might be but little difference. It is never wise to wait to make a change, however, until things begin to go down.

Finally, we recall Mrs. Brock's words in her farewell address at Pittsburg:

"We have been told that figures do not lie, but we know the deductions drawn from them frequently are lies. There is only strength in numbers when there is organization and unity, and he who sacrifices these things for numbers chooses the rabble and interests the revolution."

Mary A. Gilroy,
Secretary Woman's Club, Lebanon, Pa.

*Note 1.—The Pennsylvania per capita plan is founded on the plan of representation in the Pennsylvania State Federation Standing Rules, and would read somewhat as follows: The numbers mean nothing, they were simply put in to make the sense clear:

Section 8. Each State Federation shall be entitled to be represented by its president or her appointee, the state secretary for the G. F. W. C. and 2 delegates. Federations of 500 members and over, not exceeding 15,000 members, shall be entitled to one additional delegate for each additional 250 members or majority fraction thereof. Beyond 15,000 members, one delegate to every thousand members or majority fraction thereof, provided that no Federation shall be entitled to more than 75 delegates.

*Note 2.—At the Denver meeting the Pennsylvania Federation and clubs were allowed 66 delegates and sent 26. In the delegation there were about a dozen club women non-delegates, and if there had been state representation these might have been delegates, and Pennsylvania would have been able to have had more nearly the representation it was entitled to. In the proposed plans all but the states and clubs in the vicinity of the meeting place would send about as many delegates as they had ever done. These non-delegates derived as much inspiration, enjoyment and benefit from the meeting as the delegates. They had every privilege but that of making motions and voting.

The following is a list of clubs that have been admitted to the General Federation of Women's Clubs up to December 20th:

The Woman's Club, Fond-du-lac, Wisconsin. Mrs. L. W. Clark, President.

Progress Club, Stern's Point, Wisconsin. Miss Frances Quinn, President.

Woman's Club, Athens, Ga. Mrs. M. A. Lipscomb, President.

Mutual Improvement Circle, Bryan, Texas. Mrs. W. S. Howell, President.

Mrs. Edward Rotan, Waco, Texas, will continue as State Chairman of Correspondence for Texas.

Minnie M. Kendrick,
Corresponding Secretary.

New York, Jan. 10, 1900.

To The Club Woman:

The time of the Paris meeting of G. F. W. C. has been changed to June 28 and 29, instead of Sept. 4 and 5, and will you be good enough to see that it is widely announced? I sent out notices in November to every club (2300), announcing the September date. The reasons for changing are various and all urgent. First, the "City of Rome," the steamship chosen by our agent, has been withdrawn for use by the British government in South Africa, and no other steamship can be had at that time (end of July) at this late date; second, Madame Pegard, in the name of the Paris Congress Commissioners, wrote last month most urgent letters to Mrs. Lowe and Mrs. Helmuth, begging the General Federation to hold its meeting in June rather than in September, as, she said, "the administration of the 'Palais de la Femme' have expressed such regret that your conference in Paris does not coincide more closely with ours of June 18 to 23. At a meeting just held of our board, it was decided to ask the delegation of clubs from America to come earlier than September. Do you not think it would be advantageous if our several meetings could act more in concert? and could you not come in June rather than in September? You could then come to Paris in an imposing deputation, and we should be happy to have you take part in our Congress. The women who will congregate from all parts of the world for our June Congress could not possibly remain until September. Why not change your plans and come in June, and give us all such pleasure?"

This delightful letter was discussed at the special meeting of the committee held in New York recently, and the voice was unanimous to change to June. But it was decided that nothing must interfere with our own Biennial in Milwaukee. So we cabled Mme. Pegard asking if we might have the hall in the Woman's Building June 28 and 29. She at once wired back "yes." The Biennial closes on June 8. Ample time remains to reach Paris for the time of the two days' session there.

The tour as arranged by our agents, Dr. and Mrs. Howard Paine, will now be reversed, beginning in Paris. For all information regarding the trip write to Mrs. Howard Paine, Glens Falls, New York. The S. S. Friesland, Red Star Line, is the one chosen for the Federation tour. She starts with the club women from New York June 13th. The local committee in Paris has been appointed and Mme. Isabelle Bogelot is chairman. Our committee here is now arranging the program. Further details will be given out in next month's issue of your journal. Clubs sending photographs for the exhibit will remember that they must be mounted and not exceed 11x14 inches. Send to the chairman, Mrs. Helmuth, 504 Fifth avenue, New York City.

Anna Maxwell Jones,
Secretary Paris Committee.

A meeting of the Executive Board of the G. F. W. C. has been called for February 12, at 10 A. M., in the Hotel Cochran, Washington, D. C., when the following business will be presented: Presentation of program for the Paris Exposition, Report of Paris Committee, Report of Biennial Committee.

STATE FEDERATION NEWS.

ILLINOIS.

A conference of state presidents was held in Chicago January 4th, 1900. The presidents of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri and Ohio were invited. Unfortunately all could not attend. The meeting, which was entirely informal, was held at rooms of Chicago Woman's Club. Methods of carrying on Federation work in the different states were fully discussed and compared. All affairs of interest in both General and State Federations received attention—the reorganization of G. F. W. C., the Biennial at Milwaukee, etc. The ladies were the guests of the Chicago Woman's Club at a literary meeting on January 3rd. Mrs. Farson, State President Illinois, entertained the ladies from abroad, Mrs. Ellen M. Henrotin and Mrs. Pennoyer Sherman, President of Chicago Women's Club, at a luncheon on January 4th, and they were the guests of Mrs. Henrotin on January 5th. The conference was profitable and pleasant and the consensus of opinion prevailed that such informal meetings would do much to promote the federation idea of "Unity in Diversity."

The Illinois Federation has just sent out the following circular:

The Art Committee of the Illinois State Federation of Women's Clubs desires to establish a traveling picture gallery consisting of sets of mounted photographs with condensed biographies of artists attached, to be loaned, in turn, to all the clubs desiring them. In order to accomplish this purpose funds will be required. The committee begs to call your attention to this fact and to request that your club send to the Treasurer of the State Federation a contribution, no matter how small the amount, to be used for that purpose. This is not an assessment but a request for assistance. Clubs contributing to this fund will receive due credit in the Annual Report and a full account of all expenditures will be given.

This letter is sent with the sanction of the Board of Directors and signed by Adelaide S. Hall, Chairman; Jean Sherwood, Minnie R. Maltby, Mary S. McMurphy, Mary Willis, Marie J. Olds, Mary Bull, Annie H. Annis.

Among recent events, one of the most interesting to club women everywhere was the appointment, by President McKinley, of Mrs. Bertha Honore Palmer, wife of Potter Palmer, Esq., as commissioner to the Paris Exposition. Mrs. Palmer well deserves this honor; as president of the Board of Women Commissioners of the Columbian Exposition in 1893, she established a record for splendid work and efficient generalship that has never been beaten. Her appointment is a well-earned compliment, which reflects credit on the entire body of women in America, of which she is the fairest representative.

So much interest has been aroused by the recent meeting of the Chicago Woman's Club which discussed "Society," that a resume of Mrs. Henrotin's paper is of interest in this report. The crush at this meeting was so great that it reminded one of the opening night at Grand Opera. Besides the presence of most of the large membership, there were 314 guests from the city, besides a large number from out of town. Mrs. Pennoyer L. Sherman, the president, was in the chair and the honorary president of the G. F. W. C. was the essayist. Her topic was "What Is Society?" and this fact and her finely written paper made the day a "red letter" one in the history of the club.

"The society of past generations was a very simple thing," she said. "Society was synonymous with social functions. Society nowadays in a republic is an entirely different thing. Where in the olden times it used to border on the courts of

kings and be participated in by the nobility and the followers of the court, and represent the gatherings of these people, it now is undergoing a reconstruction. In this country the army plays but little part, and the officials of the nation, state and municipality take little or no part in the doings of society."

To avoid the responsibility of seeming to criticize local society, Mrs. Henrotin adopted the clever device of putting her paper in the form of three different conversations which she held with friends, and which were suggested by her question, "What is Society?" Her first speaker was a man of thirty-five, "the best age for either man or woman," interpolated Mrs. Henrotin.

"But I don't like your Chicago society. It is made up of women, girls and boys," he said. "The fine type of American men is absent. Your society is over-feminine. Even the footman gives a start of surprise if a man appears at a social function. Chicago society is flourishing this season. Every family has a debutante, and all of them seem very young and very elaborately dressed. I daresay their parents can distinguish them from each other, but no one else can. In the whirl of functions there is no time to talk with them. They must be made of iron to be able to endure the strain and to keep up the giddy whirl. There is no pleasure in this for mature men, consequently your society is womanish and youngish. The remedy is to include men, who make the strong, eager, militant life of America."

Mrs. Henrotin's next conversation was with a social leader who is old enough to regard the subject without personal bias. "The struggle in the world of affairs is so absorbing to our men that they withdraw from social life," said she. "Such men prefer the society of other men, and the women left to themselves find that they can enjoy women, too. A Frenchman, criticising American society, found our women too anxious to talk. They are inclined, he thinks, to be 'too educational,' and do not give men a chance to exchange opinions with them. Losing the contrast of man and woman, society loses its picturesqueness."

"But what is society?" Mrs. Henrotin again asked. "Write it with a capital and it means fashionable intercourse," was the answer. "With a small letter and it means recreation. Spell it with two S's and in burlesque it becomes the 'sassiety' of the moneyed woman with the penetrating voice and vulgar ambition. A young girl friend of mine, who is gay and intelligent, said that society represents the social art where men and women do pleasant things, and should mean for those who participate to show the world what we consider the best part of ourselves. The effects of society upon young women are not always the best."

Mrs. Henrotin's third conversation included husband and wife who had withdrawn from Society, spelt with a capital, and enjoyed only quiet diversions. They ascribed the growing unconventionality of American life to constant travel and change of home. The free intercourse of country clubs causes unconventionality. "But," said the wife, "we must not be impatient of convention. Society has a long memory, and it is better to be over-scrupulous than too free. If we would give more attention to form and manners, the American people would be the most distinguished nation in the world."

They decided that since there is no court of appeal for American society, public opinion cannot be safely disregarded. Society recognizes the right to do as one pleases within certain bounds, and those who are the sharpest critics need the most charity for themselves.

At the close of Mrs. Henrotin's paper Miss Lilian Bell spoke of the beautiful hospitality of the South in days gone by. There guests were invited because they were wanted, not in order to pay a debt of social obligation. "With us," said she, "a

social gathering resembles a meeting of creditors. We are governed not by the social, but by the bankrupt law."

In the discussion which followed Miss Jane Addams, Mrs. Lydia A. Coonley-Ward and Mrs. I. S. Blackwalter took part, and Mrs. Elia Peattie rounded off the symposium by giving as her definition that "Society makes a fine art of pleasure."

NOTE:

By mistake the fine article on "The Evolution of a Program" was printed in the January number as written by Mrs. Anna L. Palmer, and read at the Illinois convention by Mrs. Clara G. Coulson. The fact is that Mrs. Coulson should have the entire credit, as she wrote it herself at very short notice, upon the sudden death of Mrs. Palmer, only a few days before the convention.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON REORGANIZATION OF
G. F. W. C. OF THE WOODLAWN WOMAN'S
CLUB, CHICAGO.

1. Your committee does not favor representation through the State Federations only. There is no need for the State Federation to be represented in the G. F. W. C.

2. It does not favor representation from national societies as such, but advises the admission of their local organizations on the same basis as that of the individual clubs.

3. It recommends that the plan formulated by the present committee on reorganization, Mrs. Horace Brock, Chairman, be presented to the Biennial of June, 1900, for discussion, and that the plan, with its possible amendments and the tone of discussion, be submitted to an entirely new committee, which shall report for final decision to the Biennial of 1902.

4. Your committee favors a per capita representation, with a limit of two delegates for each club having a membership of one hundred or less, and an additional delegate for clubs having a hundred or majority fraction thereof in excess.

5. Answered in 1. In addition your committee favors, (a) A per capita tax for the support of the G. F. W. C. (b) Biennial meetings. (c) Making the official term four years with alternate elections of one-half of the Executive Board.

Your committee recommends, as a substitute, that if after further consideration it should prove necessary to devise a plan for reorganization, that the basis of representation should be the Congressional district—it could be one delegate from each district containing five or fewer clubs, and one delegate for every additional five clubs or majority fraction thereof.

Your committee believes:

1st. That representation from the Congressional districts would not remove the individual club as far from the G. F. W. C. as would representation through the State Federation only.

2nd. That by such representation the work of the State and General Federation would not be thrown on the same individuals.

3rd. That organization among women would still be stimulated and District Federation would be encouraged.

4th. That the General Federation would then remain a truly democratic body, corresponding with the House of Representatives.

5th. That if any work of national importance should be undertaken, needing national legislation, the Federation through its delegates could easily communicate with the law-making power, the Congressmen.

Your committee wishes to affirm its opinion that the work of the State and General Federations should be separated: the work of the State should be carried on by delegates direct from the individual clubs, the work of the General by the delegates from the districts. Mere election to the State Federation

should not be used as a stepping stone to national official position.

Corinne S. Brown, Chairman; Laura W. Taft, Frances E. Owens, Maria S. Mendershall, Mary S. Harris, Mary E. Morgan, Florence M. Ashcraft, Louise J. Reasson.

FLORIDA.

The fifth annual meeting of the delegates of the State Federation of Woman's Clubs of Florida took place at Palatka on January 11 and 12. The meetings were held in the parlor of the Putnam House, which was tastefully decorated with the Federation colors, green and yellow, and the colors of the Fortnightly Club of Palatka, green and white.

After the singing of America, Mrs. A. S. Willard, president of the Fortnightly Club, delivered the address of welcome, during which she said:

"There can be no dispute as to the remarkable attainments reached by the efforts and labors of these clubs and this Federation. From around the hearthstones of humble homes to the midst of elaborate public institutions; from the church, from the schoolroom, from the pulpit and the press to the affairs of every-day life; throughout the entire domain of sunny, prosperous Florida, the benefits resulting from the creation and efforts of these organizations are felt; and their elevating influences are shedding bright rays as undeniably as ignorance, superstition and bigotry fade away before the advancing and penetrating light of civilization and enlightenment. Having, therefore, as we do, not only the interest of self-culture and personal development at heart, but wishing to lend our assistance to further the best interest of our people and our country, we most heartily indorse the purposes of this institution and the immediate objects of this assemblage, and pledge our earnest co-operation in the work at hand, believing, as we do, that our citizenry is in thorough accord with this meeting, and knowing that the impulse of our own hearts prompts us, in unison, along the same line. Let us all hope along the pathway to righteousness and the attainment of all that is good and worthy, honorable, womanly, loyal, true and best."

Mrs. W. W. Cummer, the acting president, responded eloquently to this welcome, and pointed out the growth and the surprising development of the woman's clubs during the past year.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, different committees reported, and the treasurer's and auditor's reports were given. A letter of regret from Mrs. Lowe, president of the General Federation, was read.

The interesting report of the historian, Mrs. J. H. Keppler, was listened to with rapt attention. This report mapped out briefly the history of each club, from its beginning to the present time, and showed that the progress of work has been onward and upward. The paper of Mrs. Beekman, read by Mrs. Burrows, on The Evolution of the Corrupt in Advertising and Literature, was an earnest appeal to women to lend their best efforts towards bringing about a reform in this very important matter.

In the afternoon the program was as follows: International solo, Mrs. Wm. Haughton; President's address, Mrs. Beekman. This address, read by Mrs. W. W. Cummer, emphasized the benefits derived by local clubs joining the State Federation, chief among them being their assistance to the public schools. She recommended that each club should subscribe to The Club Woman, as a stimulus to their work. All committees should be appointed with great care, and should be in thorough sympathy with their work. All clubs should have a historical committee to secure that which is interesting and romantic in the state.

It is very important that we have educational and industrial committees; industrial and art classes should be established in the schools of large cities and towns. Through the medium of the woman's clubs there would be great progress in Florida in the next five years.

The great need of taking the public school system out of politics was emphasized. She advocated the forming of child classes for the study of nature in the fields and woods. This very forcible paper was closed with the hope that a great deal should be made of Arbor Day.

The report of the reciprocity committee was read by Mrs. Warren, followed by reports of clubs belonging to the Federation. These reports were of great interest, and showed that each club had accomplished a satisfactory year's work and was in good financial condition.

Mrs. Thompson of Daytona, in opening this discussion, spoke of the schools of Florida in comparison with those of other states. She urged the woman's clubs to co-operate with the schools. Remarks were made by other women, all purporting towards the same end—the establishment of sub-districts, thus securing better advantages for the children of our state.

The next on the program, a paper from Mrs. McGregor of Palatka, on The Pilgrims and Their Influence, was very entertaining and instructive.

In the evening a reception was held at the beautiful home of Mrs. A. E. Wilson. The reception committee consisted of Mrs. Willard, president of the Entertaining Club; Mrs. Walton, vice-president; and Mrs. A. E. Wilson. The house was elaborately and beautifully decorated with the Federation and with the Fortnightly Club colors. Banks of marigolds, with their foliage, were everywhere, and festoons of white and green decorated the walls. During the evening a fine musical program was much enjoyed.

The session Friday morning was opened by music—a vocal duet by the Misses Moragne. Mrs. Cummer read the state president's views on reorganization of the General Federation. Mrs. Beekman strongly advocates reorganization, and recommends that a tax of at least 10 cents per capita be levied on the different clubs belonging to the State Federation. This question of reorganization was discussed at length, with the result that the delegates of each club voted for reorganization on the basis of representation through the State Federation only, and that a tax of 5 cents per capita be levied for the National Federation.

Mrs. Keppler read the report of Mrs. Laura C. Scudder, the state representative at the last council meeting of woman's clubs in Philadelphia. Mrs. Scudder gave a very interesting account of her stay in the city and of meetings. She told of how confusing things were, owing to over representation, and advised that each state be represented only through its Federation.

The motion that each club levy a yearly tax of 10 cents per capita, as its dues to the State Federation, was carried. The following delegates to the General Convention to be held in Milwaukee in June, 1900, were elected: Mrs. Beekman and Mrs. Wamboldt; alternates, Mrs. Keppler and Mrs. McGregor.

In the afternoon the meeting was continued. The question under consideration was, What Shall be the Especial Work of the Federation for the Coming Year? Mrs. Morse of Orange City read a touching appeal for the protection of birds, asking women to discountenance the killing of birds by not wearing them on their hats. A committee for the protection of birds was appointed: Mrs. Morse, Miss Hutchinson and Mrs. Fairhead. A motion to the effect that the Federation endeavor to have a woman elected on each school board and as trustee, was carried.

Then followed a very enthusiastic and wide-awake talk on establishing free kindergartens, and connected with them mothers' clubs. The president of each club was instructed to appoint a committee to work up the free kindergarten and all other educational work, and to report as soon as possible to the chairman of the educational committee. The chief work of the coming year then will be the earnest effort of each club to establish a free kindergarten.

The usual resolutions of thanks were passed, to which was added the following:

"Resolved, That the Florida State Federation of Woman's Clubs does hereby present a protest against the seating of Congressman-elect Roberts, believing that such action would weaken the standard of moral purity and jeopardize our homes, wherein lies the nation's strength and happiness; and, that we request our Congressmen to work against the seating of Mr. Roberts, and to use all honorable means against it.

"May Emily Thompson,

"Mrs. S. L. Morse,

"Mrs. Ella Nasen Burrows."

A rising vote of thanks was then given to the vice-president, Mrs. W. W. Cummer, who had presided with so much dignity and grace.

The board of directors announced that the next annual convention will be held January 26, 1901, at a place to be appointed later.

With the singing of God Be With You Till We Meet Again, the meeting closed.

LOUISIANA.

On December 29, 1899, the women's clubs of Louisiana met in the High School building in Shreveport to organize a Louisiana Federation of Women's Clubs. Twelve clubs joined the State Federation and of this number the following belong to the National Federation: The New Orleans Woman's Club, New Orleans; Hypatia, Shreveport; Pierian, Shreveport; the Review Club, Lake Charles; the Enterprise Club, Lake Charles; the Lesche, Natchitoches.

In organizing the State Federation, Hypatia of Shreveport took the initiative; but every organization of women in the state having for an object self-improvement and mutual helpfulness were not only invited, but urged to come and help in the good work. Many of the clubs gave a cordial response, making a full attendance and an enthusiastic meeting. The New Orleans Woman's Club was the only club from that city joining the Federation. This is in part due to the fact that the council of women, in which the woman's club takes the lead, forms a city Federation sufficient unto itself. This council is composed of more than one hundred clubs, divided into fifteen heads, including sanitation, education, city embellishment, social reform and domestic science. These women stand for a great power in New Orleans. They have done excellent work and accomplished many needed reforms, adding to the health and beauty of this southern city.

Except for the New Orleans Woman's Club the State Federation is formed from the country districts, Shreveport in the northwest corner of the state taking the lead with its numerous progressive clubs, with a representation from other smaller towns. The state chairman of correspondence opened the meeting in a short address, with words of welcome to the club women and explaining the object of the meeting.

Miss Agnes Morris of the Lesche Club of Natchitoches was elected chairman and Mrs. Shuttlesworth of Shreveport secretary; then committee on constitution and by-laws, nominations and credentials were appointed. A recess was taken until the

various committees were ready to report, when business was resumed. The constitution and by-laws called forth some discussion, but with some alterations were adopted.

The nominating committee then reported and the following officers elected: Mrs. James Foster, president, Hypatia Club, Shreveport; Miss Marion Brown, first vice-president, New Orleans Woman's Club; Mrs. James Kenney, second vice-president, Review Club, Lake Charles; Miss Agnes Morris, corresponding secretary, Lesche Club, Natchitoches; Mrs. Amanda Taylor, recording secretary, Pierian Club, Ruston; Mrs. Camilla Brezeale, treasurer, Lesche Club, Natchitoches; Mrs. McGoldrick, auditor, Oak Leaf Club, Conshatta; directors, Mrs. Sallie Q. Hamilton, Shreveport; Mrs. Margaret C. Kane, Lake Charles; Mrs. Lillie Richardson, New Orleans; Miss Sallie Bell, Shreveport.

There was held a business meeting on Dec. 30, to arrange for printing and other necessary details. The meetings of the State Federation are to be yearly, but the officers are to serve two years. The time and place of the next meeting has not yet been arranged.

Hypatia gave a delightful reception to the visiting club women at the home of Mrs. Foster-Comegys, every member of the club welcoming and cordially greeting the guests. The house was profusely decorated in bamboo, that most beautiful of southern vines, falling naturally into artistic effects, twined with the Hypatia colors of white, gold and purple. There was a feast of good things and a cordial interchange of greetings and good will between the club women, with the hope that a better acquaintance will cement and strengthen into lasting friendships.

The women of Louisiana are conservative and the Federation idea has made but little progress, but we have good reason to hope that this union of forces will do much good, and by organizing the various activities of women's work, that they may feel the enthusiasm that comes from organized effort.

Sallie Q. Hamilton,
Chairman of Correspondence for Louisiana.

CONNECTICUT.

At the council meeting held Nov. 17th in New Haven, as reported in these columns, after the discussion of reorganization of the General Federation, a unanimous vote was carried to the effect that the chair should appoint a committee of three to report to Mrs. Horace Brock by the 15th of January. This committee was appointed as follows: Miss Dotha Stone Pinneo, Corresponding Secretary of the Federation, Chairman; Mrs. H. H. Pyle, Vice-President and Director in the General Federation; Mrs. W. R. Hopson, Chairman of Correspondence. The duty of this committee was to send to Mrs. Brock what it believes to be some indication of the opinion in Connecticut concerning this question, the main one, apparently, before the General Federation today. A meeting was held in Bridgeport, Jan. 10th. There was practically no difference of opinion, and the following statements and suggestions were formulated:

1. The Connecticut State Federation of Women's Clubs is in favor of a reorganization of the General Federation of Women's Clubs which shall give clubs their representation in that body through their State Federations only.

2. The Federation believes in triennial meetings of the General Federation.

3. The Federation proposes that each State shall be entitled to one delegate for every one hundred members or fraction of one hundred which exceeds one-half.

4. The Federation proposes that each state shall pay into the treasury of the General Federation \$3.00 for every one hundred members of the State Federation or fraction of one

hundred which exceeds one-half.

5. The Federation is not in favor of allowing national societies to join the State Federations through their local societies and chapters.

6. The Federation believes that each state should appoint its delegates and collect its dues as it sees fit.

This was accompanied by an informal letter explaining the reasons for the stand taken by the committee.

It is thought that triennial meetings will simplify the matter of finding cities which can undertake the entertainment of the General Federation, and also that it will considerably affect the burning question of income, as the expensive printing, and so on, necessary at the meetings will come when three years' income is in hand instead of two years'. For the same reason, it is supposed that \$3.00 for every hundred members will give a sufficient income. Of course, it is understood that the delegates will be over one thousand by this rating, one for every hundred members of a State Federation; but on the other hand, has any state ever been able to count upon getting out its full quota? It is thought not. Connecticut objects strongly to the use of the word "tax" as long as it is not necessary to use it, "dues" being quite as proper and being without the odium the word "tax" seems to bear with it ever since the days of the Revolution. She proposes to pay her General Federation dues out of her state treasury, as she does now, without making any attempt to reach each individual member of the Federation with a per capita tax. This will considerably reduce the state income, already far too small, but, of course, the way to solve this problem is to get more clubs into the Federation. She hopes not to have to approach the subject of changing the present amount and manner of payment of state dues. Connecticut, according to the true "American spirit," believes that each state should make her own rules for her own government. A constitution cannot be tested in any way but just by testing it, as Horace Greeley might have said, and if a state finds one way doesn't work, she can change far more easily than can the General Federation, and no one can gainsay that the constitution of a great body like the General Federation should deal with essentials only, leaving, if possible, different sections of the country to "work out" their "own salvation."

Connecticut does not believe in allowing the national societies to join the State Federations through their local societies and chapters, because it would tend to increase the General Federation, apparently, to an unmanageable size.

A meeting of the Board of Directors has been called for Jan. 26th at 3.00 p. m., in the parlors of the Young Women's Christian Association, 226 Main Street, Bridgeport. Plans for the next meeting of the Federation, to be held in Willimantic the latter part of April, upon invitation of the Woman's Club, are to be formulated. The annual meeting, which, according to the revised by-law, will be held "in the fall," will be at Ansonia, upon invitation of the Woman's Club of Ansonia, Derby and Shelton.

The Young Women's Christian Association of Bridgeport, whose honored president is Mrs. H. H. Pyle, has so often extended its hospitality to the Connecticut Board that they will rejoice with the organization that it is to have a beautiful home of its own. This is the result of the generosity and strenuous exertion of its friends.

Dotha Stone Pinneo.

I am one of your late subscribers. I write to tell you that each number of your magazine is hailed with delight, and each article is eagerly read and digested. You are winning laurels of undying fame—laurels so richly deserved. May your phenomenal success continue.—Mrs. E. B. Kinsworthy, Little Rock, Arkansas.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Three new clubs have recently been added to the Massachusetts Federation: The Chromatic Club and the Shattuck Club of Boston, and the Woman's Club of West Acton. A committee will soon be announced on Arts and Crafts.

By invitation of the Norumbega Club, the next meeting of the Massachusetts Federation of Women's Clubs will be held in Trinity Methodist Church, Charlestown, on Saturday, Feb. 24, 1900, at 10.00 a. m.

Morning Session.—Subject, Requisite Conditions of the School Room. 10.00, music, organ prelude and solo. Address of welcome, Lisbeth D. Miller, M. D., President of Norumbega Club. Response, Miss O. M. E. Rowe, President of the Federation. 10.30, Presentation of subjects for the day by Mrs. E. N. L. Walton, Chairman of Education Committee. 11.00, School Architecture, Mr. John Lyman Faxon. Discussion. 11.45, School Room Decoration, Mr. Walter G. Page. Discussion. 12.45, Singing from Federation Song Book. Intermission from 1.00 to 2.30 p. m.

Afternoon Session, 2.30 p. m.—Subject, School Training in Morals. 2.30, music. Roll call and introduction of new clubs. Greeting, Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, Honorary President of the Federation. Address, Miss Margaret J. Evans of Carleton College, Minnesota, former President of Minnesota State Federation of Clubs. Discussion, led (probably) by Dr. Frank A. Hill, Secretary Massachusetts Board of Education. Singing from Federation Song Book.

All members of State Federated Clubs are invited to attend.

GEORGIA.

The Georgia Federation has been enlarged since the November convention by two clubs containing over a hundred members. The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Atlanta Symphony Club and the Forsyth Tuesday Afternoon Club.

The Executive Board of the Georgia Federation, after due consideration, have subscribed to what in their opinion is the most advisable plan for the readjustment of the General Federation.

"Whereas, The General Federation is a fraternity for the promotion of self-culture, social service and universal progress for the interchange of views and the intercommunication of different sections;

"Whereas, The laity of an association organized for culture, service and progress can never become too numerous;

"That to reduce the representation would restrict the present usefulness of the Federation and contract its future power;

"That the larger the Biennials the greater the inspiration;

"Whereas, The General Federation is not a commercial corporation, instituted for personal and selfish ends, in which the largest stockholders control the greatest number of votes;

"Whereas, It is not a political body, therefore representation should not be measured by taxation;

"Whereas, It is not intended for state or sectional dominion, therefore representation should be equal;

"Whereas, For all of these reasons the ideal relation of members to the Federation lies in the willingness of each woman to contribute her share (10 cents per year) to the support of this great body without desiring to pool a number of these small payments for purposes of political dominance;

"Therefore be it resolved, That the Georgia Federation suggests:

"Art. I. a. The General Federation shall consist solely of individual clubs.

b. "The State Federation shall exist as a state organization,

to enlarge and develop such work as may seem most needed for the welfare of each state.

c. "The State President and her General Federation Committee shall control and strive to augment all General Federation interests within the boundary of the state.

d. "This Federation Committee shall be the medium of communication between the State and General Federation, and this committee shall report regularly to the State Executive Board. The chairman of this committee shall be ex-officio state delegate to the Biennial.

e. "The Committee of Correspondence shall cease to exist, and their work shall be performed by Federation committees of State Federations.

f. "The number of General officers shall remain unchanged.

g. "A per capita tax of ten cents shall be levied annually from each member of every federated club.

h. "Each club shall have equal representation at the Biennial.

i. "Each club shall send to the Biennial President and as many delegates as may be decided upon hereafter.

"Signed: Annie E. Johnson, Mary Silver Jackson, Eula Felton Willingham, Ruth Evans, Caroline D. G. Granger, Ethel Philips Lester, A. Mack Nerdery, May A. Mills, Kate Piercy Chestney, Passie Fenton Ottley, Inez Wilkins Jones, Sarah Cooper Sanders."

NEW JERSEY.

According to that bright little magazine, the Club Owl, the executive board of the N. J. S. F. held its January meeting in Englewood by invitation of Miss Elizabeth B. Vermilye, first vice-president.

The charming hospitality of the hostess contributed largely to the pleasure always combined with business at these meetings. The social half-hour with the members of the Woman's Club of Englewood, after a lecture on "Liquid Air," was greatly enjoyed by all. These social bits that come in the lives of club women make the opportunity for mental friction which produces the warmth and glow of enthusiasm necessary to carry out work which so often entails self-sacrifice and weariness.

More than the usual amount of business was attended to and the meeting was adjourned to meet at Mrs. Williamson's on the second Monday in February, when the chairman will have the opportunity of reporting work along the lines set in motion according to instructions given at this meeting. Miss Vermilye gave a most interesting report as chairman of the Palisade Committee, not only instructive, but showing progress, and a zeal which promises to eventually overcome all obstacles to the desired end in view. Among the other interesting reports was that of Mrs. Newbury, chairman of T. I. Department. She asked for instructions and received the suggestions found in the following motion made by Mrs. Florence Howe Hall:

"Moved, that the chairman of the Town Improvement Department be authorized to investigate the sanitary condition of the first class cities and to make a report on the same to the executive board. Moved, further, that said chairman have power also to call the attention of the authorities to dirty streets and other bad conditions, should such be found existing in said cities, and should the department think such course advisable."

The Committee on Literature publishes the following list of subjects suitable for club discussion:

1. The Profession of Wifehood and Motherhood—Trained Parents.
2. Child Culture—Its Possibilities and its Dangers.
3. The Responsibilities of Society.

4. Charity or Justice—the Pauper, the Criminal or the Working Man, Which?
5. Causes of Poverty.
6. Housing the Poor.
7. Is Profit-Sharing the Solution of the Labor Question?
8. Our Destructive Classes.
9. Public Amusements.

KANSAS.

For several years it has been the custom for the Kansas State Federation of Women's Clubs to hold a meeting devoted to educational topics during the meeting of the Kansas State Teachers' Association in Topeka. The Teachers' Association has accepted this session as an integral part of their assembly. The Superintendents approve of it as tending to bring about good feeling and co-operation between the powers that be in the children's world, and the teachers attend in goodly numbers and take part with the club women in the discussions.

The latest of these meetings occurred Dec. 27, '99, at 2.30 P. M. in Unity Church, Topeka, announced as "The Social Science Round Table," Mrs. James Humphrey, president of K. S. S. T., presiding. Music for the occasion was furnished by Mrs. C. S. Gleed and Mrs. G. W. Parkhurst.

The audience was made up largely of teachers from various parts of the State, and at the close of the exercises they were tendered a reception by the Topeka City Federation of Women's Clubs. Industrial Education in the Public Schools was the first subject to be considered, and Mrs. Graves of Emporia presented its claims in a very excellent paper, read by Miss M. L. Jones, professor in the State Normal School.

Mrs. J. M. Kellogg, in a short talk, advocated the educational rather than the industrial side of manual training. She thought it could be begun at once in our public schools by introducing the simplest forms—drawing, needle-work, wood-carving and clay-modeling. The cost of this was estimated at \$20 per pupil per annum.

The second topic considered was "Improvement and Decoration of School Rooms." This was presented in a very able and interesting way by Mrs. L. D. Whittemore, herself an artist and member of the committee on decoration of school-rooms in Topeka, which has lately accomplished such excellent work.

Mrs. Margaret Hill McCarter and others were on the program for discussion.

Mr. Edward Wilder, who has contributed substantially to the decoration of Topeka's school rooms, in a short talk recommended the selection of large pictures rather than small ones, since the black-boards are a necessary part of school room furnishings, and pictures must be hung above them.

Mr. C. S. Gleed told of his visit to a Topeka school-room a year since, and described its forlorn barrenness. He wondered how his children were able to endure, during the long hours of the school session, its dinginess, and resolved to make a change at once. With Mrs. Gleed's advice and assistance, and at his own expense, the whole interior of this room was changed and it became a model for the wholesale remodeling and decoration of school-rooms which followed. The testimony of teachers is that the demeanor of pupils is favorably affected by this improvement of surroundings. They become gentler in manner, and discipline is more easily maintained.

Before adjoining for the social session, Mrs. John A. Hale of Kansas City, chairman of correspondence for the G. F. W. C., proposed resolutions which will be acted upon at the next annual Federation meeting. These resolutions express approval and pledge support to the Governor of Kansas, who has announced his intention of introducing manual training in the State Reform School.

Mrs. James Humphrey.

COLORADO.

The women of the Colorado State Federation are working heroically for the preservation of the cliff dwellings in that state—a work which will be appreciated by the whole country more and more as time goes on. At their recent convention they voted to start a travelling library also; and a committee was appointed to submit recommendations for reorganizing the G. F. W. C., which reported as follows:

I. That the office of State Chairman of Correspondence be continued; that said chairman shall be a member of a club federated directly with the G. F. W. C., and that she shall be elect-

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Pennsylvania Women

ON THE

Reorganization of the G. F. W. C.

The Woman's Club of Lebanon, Pennsylvania,

are issuing a pamphlet containing what Pennsylvania Women have said on Reorganization, together with the Massachusetts plan used by the Pennsylvania Women as a basis for discussion, the resolutions adopted at the Council meeting in Philadelphia and extracts from the Constitution adopted at Louisville and at Denver, as they relate to taxation and representation.

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ed by her State Federation and be ex-officio a member of its Executive Board.

II. That Presidents of State Federations only shall be Vice-Presidents of the General Federation.

III. That the meetings of the G. F. W. C. be triennial instead of biennial.

IV. That the number of General Officers of the G. F. W. C. remain unchanged; that they be elected for a term of three years, and that the President shall not be a candidate for reelection.

V. That national organizations shall not be eligible to membership in the G. F. W. C.

VI. That we thoroughly approve of the ten cent per capita tax.

VII. That we do not favor a reorganization of the G. F. W. C. which shall deprive clubs of their individual representation in that body, but we recommend that the clubs having a membership of one hundred or over be represented by the President and one delegate, and clubs having a membership under said number shall be represented by the President alone. State Federations of more than fifty clubs shall be represented by four delegates; under that number by two delegates.

Margaret M. Gale,
Mrs. J. D. Whitmore,
Mrs. T. H. Moore,
Mrs. Julia V. Welles,
Emra H. Eldredge,
Committee.

MAINE.

The mid-winter meeting of the Maine Federation was held at Westbrook January 24, by invitation of the Ammon Coggin Club. Following are the topics discussed:

First, "An Old Home Week for Maine." 1. Its benefits to the state. 2. How the Federation can help to bring it about.

Second, "The Relation of the State Federation to the General Federation in Representation and Taxation."

1. Are you in favor of the reorganization of the G. F. W. C. which shall give clubs representation in that body only through their State Federation?

2. Are you in favor of allowing national societies to join the G. F. W. C. as such, or do you believe that the General Federation should be composed only of State Federations?

3. It has been suggested that State Federations meet every other year and the General Federation once in three or four years. Is the annual meeting of the State Federation of helpful interest to you?

OKLAHOMA.

From O. T. comes a letter saying: "The ladies of Tecumseh organized a club in October; name, Bena Dea; colors, pink and green; motto, 'The clock of time has pealed the woman's hour.' Our limit of membership is twenty-five, and we have twenty-three already. We have made application to join the Territorial Federation, but have to wait till our Year Book is ready to hand in, which is not quite complete. We are studying American authors, have Current Events, a questioner who comes alphabetically each week. Five questions are put to the club, and all that are not answered are referred to the question committee of three, who must give the answers at next meeting. We are neophytes in club work, but hope to accomplish some good worth recording."

"Show the glad tidings! California is federated; thirty clubs; north and south perfectly harmonious," flashed across the wires from Mrs. Robert J. Burdette, at Pasadena, to Mrs. Lowe at Atlanta, just after the convention of January 16, 17 and 18 in Pasadena. The call for this meeting was printed in the December Club Woman, and a report of it will appear in the next number.

"I really think," writes Miss Clara D. Coe of South Dakota, "I shall get a State Federation here after all. I have six clubs ready to take a hand! And you know we are a State of magnificent distances. We have to go the length of Nebraska, stay over night in Iowa and take a day train that stops at every cross road to get to the other side of South Dakota, just for a shortage of a one hundred and fifty mile connecting link straight across what was an Indian reservation." Talk about club enthusiasm! Can we match that in the East?

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AMONG THE CLUBS.

"New York State in its Different Phases and Aspects" was the subject which engaged the attention of the Colonia Club of Brooklyn at an uncommonly pleasant social meeting held recently. The exercises were preceded by a luncheon served in the club dining rooms, and Mrs. William H. Hoole, the president, was toast mistress of the occasion. Seated at the president's table were State Superintendent of Public Instruction Charles R. Skinner and Mrs. Skinner, Mrs. Franklin W. Hooper, president of the Woman's Club; Mrs. Cornelius Zabriskie, vice-president of the New York State Federation; Mrs. John N. Wright, Mrs. C. W. Underhill and Mrs. Charles N. Chadwick, president and former presidents respectively of the Froebel Society; Miss Shannon of the Friday Afternoon Club, Miss Hastings of the Adelphi Alumnae, and others. When the last course of the luncheon had been served, Mrs. Hoole called the assemblage to order and spoke a few words of welcome. Mrs. F. W. Hooper was the first speaker, and her topic was: "The Making of the State." It was a graceful compliment, she said, to ask a daughter of New England to speak about the making of New York, and, with all her loyalty to her Puritan ancestors, she had always been interested in the historical records of the Knickerbocker. Mr. Charles R. Skinner, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, then spoke of the "Schools of the State." He expressed belief in women's clubs, and said: "You have chosen a magnificent subject, for in no better way is shown the magnitude of the Empire State than its educational interests. The school touches the people at more points than any other department of state. Father and mother are interested in the schools, and, to the credit of thousands of men and women, clubs are being organized to bring the home and school in closer touch, and in this direction lies the safety of the State. No

chapter in the history of the State is more interesting than that relating to the organization and development of the educational system." The speaker thereupon gave a detailed account of the institution and growth of the public schools, beginning with the passage of a measure in 1621 calling for the services of a minister and two schoolmasters in the colony. The liberty-loving settlers of New Netherlands were strong advocates for elementary and common school education, and in this respect differed from the English, who favored higher education only, and, during their supremacy in the colony, did nothing for the encouragement of elementary education. After the surrender of the Dutch to the English, the former possessed sufficient influence to insist upon it that the children of the French and Dutch, as well as the English, should be educated in public schools, but from 1700 to 1776 all the schools were maintained by the Church of England. Salaries in the early days were small, and even then there was a movement among the teachers for an increase of salary, but they had no "Ahearn law," said Mr. Skinner.

In 1812 Gideon Hawly perfected the system, which broadened and developed to meet the demand, and is now in use. The placing of the control of the schools of the State in the hands of the Secretary of State was referred to, also establishment of the office of Superintendent. In the State at present there are 34,000 teachers employed, of whom five-sixths are women, and in giving these figures, Mr. Skinner said: "When we expect women to teach our boys how to become citizens, may we not suppose that some day the boys thus instructed will see to it that the women have as many rights under the government as those who come uneducated from foreign shores?" The speaker spoke at some length of the professionally trained teacher, saying that such a one was an important factor in the educational system of the State. The greatest strides in this direction had been made during the past four years. "The school is a State, not a local institution," continued Mr. Skinner, and then he proceeded to tell of the duties of the State Superintendent, explaining that, while it was true that in this office there was centralization of power, such a course was necessary for the advancement of the educational interests of the commonwealth. In conclusion, he said: "The greatest enemy to education today is the indifference of the people. We are not making education attractive enough. We have hundreds of schoolhouses, but they are not as attractive as the saloons. We have in Greater New York 10,500 teachers and 7,000 policemen, and it costs as much to run the police department as it does the schools. But through public opinion and the influence of the home and the teacher, we may hope for a revival in the interests of the school."

Mrs. William Ludden next gave a paper on "The Literature of New York State." Up to the Revolutionary War New York had no literature, she said, but now New York City is fast be-



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coming the literary centre of the country. The speaker cited a long list of New Yorkers who have achieved literary fame.

Mrs. Cornelius Zabriskie spoke of woman clubs of the State, organized for every imaginable purpose. She declared that expansion in the club world is not as likely to be effective as concentrated attention.

Mrs. Lucien S. Miller of the Children's Aid Society, spoke of "State Charities." We have been called the prince of institution people, she said, and it is not to be denied that much money had been spent on fads. The Bureau of Charities has been called a soulless corporation, but excellent work is done there. Mrs. Miller praised the Elmira Reformatory, and told of the excellent care taken of the insane by the State. As a cure for the evils of existing charitable methods, she suggested organized, systematic charity and the employment of skilled workers at salaries in proportion to their abilities.

Mrs. Charles N. Chadwick was the last speaker. She was announced to give "A Prediction of the Future of New York," but said it would be a bold prophet who could venture to say anything about the future in these days. She chose to say a word about the quality of citizenship upon which the future rests. Civic pride is a splendid thing, but civic pride turned upon itself means provincialism, and that is a word applied to small localities, states, cities and individuals. What is needed is a broader and far-reaching civic interest, and it is in the development of this view of citizenship that women can prove of benefit to the State.

The Mothers' Union of Kansas City has announced the following topics for the year's work, which we submit as suggestive to many clubs:

- Tied to his mother's apron strings.
- Housekeeping for boys.
- A day with my children.
- Common diseases of children.
- Care of the eyes.
- Finger-play.
- Books for mothers.
- The importance of encouraging the love of nature in young children.
- Letting alone as a means of child training.
- Training the will.
- Honoring a child's individuality.
- The religious training of children.
- Good-night words.
- How mothers can use the work in the public kindergarten as a means of home training.
- The moral influence of the Band of Mercy training upon children.
- The building of the home.
- A modern dwelling for a family of moderate means.
- Educational value of music in the home.
- Pictures and how to utilize them as a means of child culture.
- Practical housekeeping.
- Plans for a week's work in the house.
- Marketing.
- The relation of parent and teacher to the education of the child.
- The care of fruits and vegetables in the market and in the home.
- The outcome of cooking classes in the public schools.
- How to make home attractive to the young people.
- Dietary for the invalid.
- In the union's reciprocity bureau are the following papers, which will be loaned to other mothers' clubs upon application and the receipt of four cents postage:
- A good mother.

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Among the subjects included are: How to Organize a Meeting; How to Form a Permanent Society; Calling to Order; Addressing the Chair; Election of Officers; Model of a Constitution and By-Laws; The Quorum; Routine Business; The Order of Business; How to Make, Second, State and Put Motions; Rules of Debate; Contesting and Yielding the Floor; The Previous Question; Different Methods of Voting; The Votes; Reconsideration of Votes; Nature and Effect of Amendments; Ways to Amend; Dependent and Independent Motions; The Motions to Adjourn, to Lay on the Table, to Postpone, and to Commit; The Committee's Duties and Its Report; Questions of Privilege, and Questions of Order; all carefully explained and illustrated.

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 Christmas books.

The most important event in Toledo, Ohio, clubdom the past season has been the annual election of officers for the city Federation of clubs. It is a distinct loss that the attendance at federation meetings is not larger nor greater interest manifest. The total membership in the city Federation is nearly 600; the total attendance at the annual meeting was barely a quarter of a hundred. But the meeting made up in business what it lacked in attendance.

Plans for extending the public library system were discussed by the ladies, and locations for sub-stations suggested. The executive board suggested that seven constitute a quorum and this was adopted. Plans were talked over for a club house, and in this there was simply the repetition of a plan formulated Miss Mott and others. The new plan, like the old, includes in it a sale of stock at \$25 per share—a building like the Propyleum of Indianapolis, in a word, the rehabilitation of the old Woman's Club House plan minus the former promoters. Whether the new ones secure more tangible results is a question. Toledo ought to have a Woman's Club House. The majority of the ladies present at this meeting were in favor of such a building, as we all are, but to build it is another thing. The Club Woman wishes them all success in the venture and realizes that with unity all things are possible. The officers elected for the coming year are as follows: Mrs. Enid Ware Foster, president; Mrs. Martin, second vice-president; Mrs. George W. Collamore, third vice president; Mrs. Gleason, treasurer; Miss Kate Raynor, recording secretary, and Mrs. C. H. Pixey, corresponding secretary.

Along with an elm tree planted in one of the city parks by club members, Spokane Sorosis has about completed its eighth year. Devoted chiefly to literary efforts, it has maintained a steady growth, having at present forty-eight active and four honorary members. It has been mindful of its duties to Spokane in the way of gifts to the public library, as well as lectures and entertainments, also assisting in the observance of public holidays. Sorosis was the first club in the state to be represented in the G. F. W. clubs which assembled in Chicago in 1892. Mrs. Esther Allen Jobs being the delegate. It has been active in furthering the Washington State Federation work. The number of charter members attest the interest and loyalty of these club women. A continued topic, the subject being France, ran through the entire year just ended. This topic embraced history, peasant life, prominent authors, education, science, art and music. It was well arranged and proved that a continuous subject may be profitable and pleasant. Sorosis is with other clubs a recognized institution in the city of Spokane, and looks forward to no distant day when a club home will be realized.

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THE LAY SISTER.

The lay sister has been having her ideas reconstructed. This is a process which is more or less valuable, depending largely, of course, in the ultimate direction to which the process tends. If it be for advancement, all is well, and with club women the process is invariably along the proper lines.

No one will deny that our meanest, narrowest prejudices are concerning those things of which we know the least; so I am ready to admit that I was prejudiced with regard to the purchase and use of the ready-made cotton underwear offered for sale to women.

Perhaps you stand with me in this prejudice. Have we not all sat in clubs and inveighed at length about the horrors of it and the hardships of the makers? We have all had mental, if not concrete, pictures of the poor women who labored from dawn to midnight for a pittance that we might be clothed. I have been at these meetings and said a few things myself; perhaps you have.

For instance, in going by a shop a few days ago I saw some corset covers offered for sale at seven cents apiece. "Goodness! the woman that made them could not earn enough money to pay for her salt," quoth I; and thereupon I vowed, I'll not wear those things, and help to put the burden of under pay upon the reluctant worker who must produce corset covers under such obvious and manifest disadvantages. For surely 'twas worth seven cents to make the garment.

Then there were other garments at equally ridiculous prices. I know all women dearly love a bargain—but there are others; and realizing the magnetism of the bargain counter when I happened to be in Jackson, Michigan, one of the busy centres which sends out many women's garments, I had the opportunity of seeing things made from the first cut to the last stitch by the

Standard Manufacturing Co., of which Mr. Ryerson is the genial manager and every employee's friend. Here was an opportunity to prove my prejudices, and I accepted it.

Now here is how I proved them: Talking about the afore-said seven-cent corset cover, I learned that a woman was usually paid about 20 cents a dozen for making these goods, and that she can make from six to seven dozen in a day during regular working hours; or in other words, she secures a wage of \$1.20 or \$1.40 per day, for the work is principally seaming. The woman in the factory does not use foot power, her sewing machine goes by steam power. Our machine at home, at greatest speed, runs 600 stitches per minute; the factory machine 3600 stitches per minute—quite a difference; and this is one of the keynotes that make the difference in the cost of production. Then there is the item of cutting, not one garment at a time but forty-eight; here's another saving. Then the trimming of the embroidered edges,—when we laboriously cut out scallop by scallop with cramped fingers and aching wrist, the machine gaily clips the reluctant scallops at the rate of nearly a mile a minute. Why, it goes as fast as club women to a club lecture! Now all these things mean economy of time, and time is money. So why need we quarrel with ready-made underwear?

Another erroneous impression I've had. Of course I am only a lay sister, but this condition may not be peculiar to me nor original with me. My idea has been that the factory girl who made my haberdashery was a weak, wan, badly-used woman. Not so! In Mr. Ryerson's factory the girls looked bright because they had plenty of pure air; they carried their heads well, they sat erect and altogether had an appearance, morally as well as physically, of health. They were an honest, self-respecting looking lot of American women, full of potentiality and possibilities. What is their earning capacity? From \$6 to \$9 or \$10 a week. Do they live at home? Usually; some

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board, and they pay from \$2.50 to \$3.00 a week, leaving them a fair balance.

So this is what I learned at Jackson; and summing up, I saw that these same ready-made goods relieve the house-wife of a vast amount of sewing; that they are thoroughly clean and are made under perfect sanitary conditions, and that none of us need be afraid of wearing them. This means more time for social and educational effort, for relieve woman of the everlasting stitch, stitch, stitch of a large family and you broaden her life and so benefit posterity; for none of us live to ourselves alone.

By the way, Mr. Ryerson, who is an expert from long association and keen discernment, told me that if you take a group of any two hundred women they will divide themselves into about six classes or divisions as to size, and the garments that will fit the six will fit the others; which illustrates our old axiom that "things which are equal to the same thing are equal to each other."

So I learned that we are after all but one of six, you and I, so "why should the spirit of mortal be proud?" Life is so short, and time means only helping the other six; so there are lessons and lessons if we only attune our ears to them; there are sermons in stones, and grave lessons in an undergarment factory. Why not?

The Lay Sister.

My Dear Club Woman:

Our little Gering (Neb.) Club sends greeting to Eastern clubs and laments that she is still fifty miles from the railroad, and has but little prospect of getting any nearer.

We are flourishing as "only weeds flourish"; have discussed plans for reorganization, decided in favor thereof and are just recovering from our annual anniversary banquet. We are very grateful to The Club Woman for her visits, and find the "Parliamentary Usage" hints a wonderful help.

Mabel S. Raymond.

The Social-Economics Club of Chicago held its first regular meeting of the year October 3rd, in Handel Hall. The Hon. Wm. E. Mason opened the year's work with a talk on "Expansion and Economics." The discussion was led by Mesdames Corinne S. Brown and F. K. Tratman. The year's program, 1899-1900, of the Social-Economics follows: October 3rd, "Expansion and Economics," Hon. Wm. E. Mason; October 17th, Musical day, in charge of Mrs. Ella E. Myler; November 7th, "Woman in Economics," Mrs. Catherine Waugh McCulloch; November 21st, "Current Topics," Mrs. S. M. Biddison; December 5th, President's day; December 19th, Dramatic day; January 2nd, "Current Topics," Mrs. A. P. Stevens; January 16th, "Relation of the Press to Economics," Louis F. Post; February 6th, "The Neglected Child," Hastings H. Hart, Supt. Illinois Children's Home and Aid Society; February 20th, open, to be announced; March 6th, "Current Topics," Mrs. Homer K. Galpin; March 20th, "Art and Economics," George M. R. Twose; April 3rd, election of officers; April 17th, Reciprocity day.

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Allow me to express the pleasure and aid The Club Woman gives to the teachers of the Boston Grammar School Club, whose duties prevent them from attending Federation meetings. We rely upon The Club Woman to keep us in touch with club life at home and abroad.—Margaret Nichols, Prest. B. G. S. Club.

A renewal to The Club Woman is imperative to an intelligent club life. The manifold testimonies of its helpful and stimulating nature, showing its cumulative force, warrants the hope that it may reach every community and every club woman in our broad land. Please find the sum of one dollar enclosed for my subscription to the same.—Isabel Allen Thayer, Corresponding Secretary, Wisconsin Federation.

The story of the six young club women of Camden, Maine, whose Shakesperian studies have brought them fame and fortune, is well known. The success of the game which was the result of their labor is quite remarkable, inasmuch as it has crossed every ocean and entered into England, France, Italy, Japan and China, besides every state and territory in America. The club belongs to the Maine Federation, and though one of the smallest, its work has been tangible. Every club woman wishes success and prosperity to this persevering club. For further particulars address The Shakespeare Club, Camden, Maine.

Blessed be the man who first invented the Thermal Bath! We suspect his name was Robinson. Anyway, that is the name attached to that modern luxury now. Like too many other women, we had read of the virtues of the Robinson Thermal Bath, and considered the good words said of it as "so much advertising." But now, having tried it and put it to a thorough test, we are prepared to give unstinted praise to this most convenient, helpful and healthful invention. It is a Turkish bath at home, and vastly better than that, because delicate people who cannot indulge in the Turkish bath as generally administered can take the Thermal Bath, and with so little trouble that it is only a pleasure. We advise every delicate woman, every rheumatic sufferer, every woman who is burdened with too much adipose tissue, and every one who dreads la grippe and kindred diseases to try it. It is a luxury, but one we can all afford.

Mrs. Ida Eckert Lawrence of Toledo, Ohio, vice-president of the City Federation there, was a recent visitor to Boston, where she was the honored guest at some of the clubs, and a welcome visitor at the home of The Clubwoman. Mrs. Lawrence is not only a real Buckeye girl, but a Richland county girl. Her grandparents emigrated from Maryland, near Harper's Ferry, and settled in what is now Richland county among the first white settlers. She heard her grandmother tell of the events of pioneer life and the Indians, which probably contributed toward the taste later developed for descriptive writing of pioneer and out-door life among those people who lived close to nature. For years Mrs. Lawrence was at home on the prairies of the great West. From a writer of Western stories, in recent years she has achieved a reputation as a writer of verse, and her poems have attracted widespread attention and words of praise. Mrs. Lawrence is known as "The Poet of Ohio," and the Buckeye State is quite proud of her. There is a tenderness in her poems, and a depth of feeling, with many brilliant pen pictures. She is to attend the Milwaukee Biennial as a delegate from the Toledo Federation.



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Miss Clarabel Gilman of Jamaica Plain, Mass., a trained botanist, has started successfully in a new line of work, that of leading study classes in botany. She has conducted several such in the vicinity of Boston this year, and her work is very highly commended. We advise clubs to organize these classes now for the study of the spring plants and the wild flowers of early summer. What could be more delightful?

The fame of Purdy, the Boston photographer, has extended throughout the club world by that excellent picture of Mrs. Lowe which was taken for The Club Woman last spring, and also by the wonderfully fine portrait of Mrs. Hearotin with which most of us are familiar. Recently a prominent Ohio woman was asked for her photograph, and replied: "I wish I could have your own Purdy take one. I saw one of you at Mrs. Fox's, which was true to life, and of which I would like to have a duplicate." There is no better photographer in the country than Purdy, and visitors to Boston are forming the habit of dropping in at 146 Tremont street and sitting for their picture.

Miss Marion Osgood was one of the first women in the country to get together a women's orchestra, and as a leader she has no superior today. Her orchestra has made a name for itself all through the east and south. There are some twenty or more in the full Marion Osgood orchestra, and they play beautifully. Then there is a quartet and a trio that play when a smaller number is wanted, for club banquets, receptions or dances. At the first annual dinner of the Boston Authors' Club, on January 6th, Miss Osgood came with her trio and rendered beautiful music all through the first part of the evening. It was a notable occasion, with such speakers as Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, Col. Higginson, Robert Grant, and Professor Hart of Harvard; but the music was fully up to the high standard of the remainder of the program. Miss Osgood will furnish any number of pieces, any quantity and excellent quality of music, at short notice. Her address is Room 33, 179 Tremont street, Boston.

"I take pleasure in renewing my subscription to The Club Woman. Had I not for the past two years received the help and inspiration as given by your valuable paper on club interests and their accomplishments in every State of our United States, I should never have accepted the position as president of the 20th Century Club of Baraboo, the only federated club here. Did more club women read this magazine, it seems to me their would not be a club out of our State Federation. The news one receives from the columns of other papers and magazines devoted to some mention of club interests does not in any way fill the bill. You will notice that on our program for the year's work there is a call for readings or statistics from The Club Woman each time. So enthusiastic am I that last fall while on train en route for Eau Claire as delegate to the State convention I was merrily alluded to by different ladies as your agent.

I shall be only too glad to embrace every opportunity to swell your list of subscribers in dear old Wisconsin. Already I think you must have heard from some of the members of our club in Baraboo. As a support to me when discouraged and an incentive to push ahead at all hazards, I surely pray for your unbounded success. May The Club Woman live forever, and may every woman in this great land have an opportunity to read its contents! There ought to be a copy in every public library for the perusal of every one.

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